FRIDAY
July 25, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
22 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 176

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

BORDER TENSE

11 killed as Cambodia, Thailand forces clash

WORLD » PAGE 20

'29 VIOLATIONS'

Air India gets notices for violating cabin crew norms

NEWS » PAGE 16

LOAN FRAUD CASE

ED searches premises linked to Anil Ambani

NEWS » PAGE 18

PARLEY

Should India relax adoption procedures?

13 parents vie for each child free for adoption

OPINION » PAGE 15

ALL-INDIAN FINAL

Humpy outlasts Lei, meets Divya for title

SPORT » PAGE 21

NEARBY

Stampede: Government to take legal action

BENGALURU
Approving the findings of the Cunha report, the State Cabinet on Thursday decided to initiate legal action against multiple parties, including IPL franchise RCB, KSCA, and DNA Network. » PAGE 2

'Karnataka will go ahead with Mahadayi project'

BENGALURU
Taking serious exception to Goa CM's statement that the Union Ministry would not give permission for Karnataka's Mahadayi project, Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar has asserted that the State would start work on the project. » PAGE 12

METROPLUS » PAGE 11

India, U.K. ink trade deal, extend framework of ties

The trade deal will benefit farmers, MSMEs, footwear and jewellery exports, and British products will face less tariffs in India, says Modi; U.K. Minister calls the deal Britain's 'biggest' since Brexit

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

India and the United Kingdom signed a Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement on Thursday during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the U.K. The deal was signed by Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and his British counterpart Jonathan Reynolds. The two sides also released a reworked and extended cooperation framework, replacing 'Roadmap 2030' with the 'India-U.K. Vision 2035' framework.

"Today marks a historic day in our bilateral relations," said Mr. Modi while delivering a press statement beside U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer at Chequers, the latter's official country residence.

Stronger bond: PM Narendra Modi with his British counterpart Keir Starmer at Chequers Estate in the U.K. X/@NARENDRAMODI

Mr. Modi said the deal would benefit Indian farmers, the MSME sector, Indian footwear and jewellery exports, as well as seafood and engineering goods sectors. He indicated that British medical devices and aerospace parts would be more easily sold in India (i.e., they would face lower Indian tariffs). Both sides were keen to emphasise the benefits of the deal to their respective political constituents.

"There may be a swing and a miss at times, but we always play with a straight bat. We are committed to building a high-scoring, solid partnership," Mr. Modi told Mr. Starmer, using a cricket metaphor as India and England battled it out in the fourth Test match in Manchester.

"It is good for British workers in cutting edge manufacturing, whisky distillers across Scotland and the service sector in London, in Manchester, and in Leeds," Mr. Starmer said, listing some of the benefits of the trade deal for Britons. Indian clothes, food, and shoes would be less costly in the U.K., he said. The deal was Britain's "biggest" trade deal since Brexit (Britain's 2016 departure from the EU), U.K. Trade Minister Mr. Reynolds told the BBC.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 16
EDITORIAL
» PAGE 14

SC stays 2006 blasts verdict, but convicts needn't return to jail

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday stayed the operation of a Bombay High Court judgment which acquitted all 12 convicts in the 7/11 Mumbai train blasts in 2006 as a judicial precedent in any pending trials under the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA).

Appearing before the Bench of Justices M.M. Sundresh and N. Kotiswar Singh, Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, for Maharashtra, sought an interim stay of the judgment to the extent it would not be used as a precedent before trial courts currently hearing other cases prosecuted under MCOCA.

Mr. Mehta clarified that the State's objective was not to put the acquitted men back in jail. "I am not seeking stay to bring them back to jail. That is not the

> We are inclined to hold that the impugned judgment [of the HC] shall not be treated as a precedent in any other pending trials. Therefore, to that extent, we stay the impugned judgment
> —SC BENCH

intention... There are certain findings of law given by the court [HC] which affect all MCOCA trials going on," he submitted.

The apex court recorded the State's submission that "all the respondents [acquitted men] have been released and there is no question of bringing them back to prison".

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 16

1% fire cess on new multi-storey buildings

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Cabinet on Thursday decided to levy 1% fire cess on the property tax of newly constructed multi-storey buildings.

The Chief Minister had announced in the 2024-25 Budget that "to increase efficiency in the Fire and Emergency Department, 1% fire cess will be levied on the property tax of multi-storey buildings which will be newly constructed". The Karnataka Fire Force (Amendment) Bill, 2025, will be tabled in the Monsoon Session of the legislature to introduce the new fire cess.

Section (15) of the Karnataka Fire Force Act, 1964, will be amended to levy 1% fire cess along with the property tax on newly constructed multi-storey buildings, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil told reporters.

STYLE THAT SETS YOU APART
HYBRID MILEAGE: 27.97 km/L*
SELF-CHARGING HYBRID ELECTRIC SUV
TOYOTA
URBAN CRUISER HYRYDER
PRICE STARTS AT ₹ 11.34 LAKH**
ADVANCED FEATURES
PANORAMIC SUNROOF, ELECTRONIC PARKING BRAKE,
8-WAY POWER ADJUSTABLE DRIVER SEAT, VENTILATED SEATS
8 YEARS
HYBRID BATTERY WARRANTY
LOW ROI OF 5.99%^
+ SERVICE PACKAGE 5 FREE SERVICES^
+ EXTENDED WARRANTY OF 5 YEARS^
+ CORPORATE & EXCHANGE OFFERS^
+ ACCESSORY PACKAGE*
SCAN TO EXPLORE
BENGALURU HOME TO YOU
HOME TO TOYOTA
URBAN CRUISER HYRYDER
ADVANCED. HYBRID. Awesome
Additional scrappage bonus available against deposit of valid certificate#.
*T&C Apply. Fuel Efficiency as Certified by Test Agency under Rule 115 of CMVR, 1989 under standard Test Conditions, Actual Mileage on Road may vary. **Ex-showroom prices are applicable Pan India. ^Scheme Offers valid till 31st July 2025 only & may vary based on models and other parameters. #Exchange bonus cannot be clubbed with scrappage bonus. ^#Please contact our authorised dealers for more information. Creative visualization. Digitally created visual. Picture of vehicle was not taken while driving.
Awesome TOYOTA CARS
LAND CRUISER 300
VELLFIRE
CAMRY
LEGENDER
FORTUNER
HILUX
INNOVA HYCROSS
INNOVA CRYSTA
RUMION
URBAN CRUISER TAISOR
GLANZA
T-CONNECT
Toyota Mobility Service
Conversion | Fleet | Leasing
TOYOTA TRUST
Buy | Sell | Exchange - Used car
TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES
Viva Toyota
Bangalore: [Hebbal, Vidyaranyapura]: 9900027736 [Airport Rd, Kogilu]: 9900030617 Mysore Rd: 9900030620
Bharat Toyota
Bangalore: [Domlur]: 9741557683, 080 47950000
Nandi Toyota
Bangalore: [Banashankari, Banaswadi, Bannerghatta, Bommanahalli, Whitefield]: 7022340713 Hosur Road: 7353628633 Kanakapura Road: 9916627733 Queens Road: 9741310066
Ravindu Toyota
Bangalore: [K R Puram, Magadi Rd, Marathahalli, Rajajinagar, Victoria Rd, Yeshwantpur]: 8058245555 Kolar: 9606090040 Tumkur: 9379189796
Palace Toyota
Hunsur: 9663709743 Kushalnagar: 8971524206 Madikeri: 7022671919 Mandya: 9538874907 Mysore: Hootagalli: 9538874906 Krishnamurthy Puram: 9538874936
Shodha Toyota
Bagalkot: 8147599463 Belgaum - Shahapur: 8147599461 Poona-Bangalore Rd: 7899305505, 7760963774, Bijapur: 9606484983, Davangere: 9008952277 Hubli: 7204818810, 8123047553
United Toyota
Mangalore: [Bunt's Hostel, Padil & Puttur], Kundapur, Udupi: 9686687581
Karuna Toyota
Gulbarga: 7829992909 Raichur: 7829990021
Shakti Toyota
Chikkamagaluru, Hassan, Kadur: 9980532064, Shivamogga, Sagara: 9686652728
BJS Toyota
Hospet: 7829927943, Bellary; 7829927957, Koppal: 7829927968, Chitradurga: 7829927933, Gangavathi: 7829927943
HAKUHODO.LYNC/07/25
A BG-BGE

Rural grounds light up, signify a bright and new era

A global leader's CSR initiative is driving the country's aspiration of hosting marquee events like the Olympics; it is also providing budding athletes a platform to hone their skills

Kamesh Srinivasan

Indian sports is aspiring to take wings and reach higher levels of excellence in the global arena. The government understands the enormous power of sports, as it aims to project the country's might by hosting the Olympics, an event that unites the whole world.

The new Sports Governance Bill, tabled in Parliament on Wednesday, attempts to cut though the complicated web that has been clutching and holding back Indian sports from realising its full potential. The objective is to ease the path of the young athletes and help them reach global glory.

The power of sports is often noticed and understood through the influence of sports stars who can engage the world and drive any campaign to great success.

Of course, it is a long journey for a young athlete to grow into a star. That hard path with many hurdles is less known to the world, as it is often unlit.

It calls for real commitment in the glamour-driven world, where every investment seeks multiple levels of returns, to do the hard work at the grass roots level and drive the youth to higher standards and lead them towards the best stages in sports.

A global leader in lighting, Signify has been doing that quietly for some years now, lending a new dimension to the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, by lighting up nearly 200 play grounds so far and sowing seeds for a sports culture in society in a significant way. What stands out is the way the company joined hands with the Brahmaputra Volleyball League (BVL) in Assam, founded and managed by the former national volleyball captain, Abhijit Bhattacharya, driving the vision to its fulfilment.

The BVL was launched in 2020 with the idea of building a strong sporting culture in rural Assam, and offer a platform for the children, passionate about playing volleyball. It started with 50 teams and 400 children. Thanks to Signify jumping in and joining the movement, installing lights in 20 grounds at first, and then stepping it up to 120 grounds, after seeing the transformative power of sport under lights in rural environment, the BVL became a roaring success. Abhijit recalls how the league used to take five months to complete about 780 matches. "The children return from school around 3.30 p.m. They got to play only for an hour or so before darkness," he said.

With its Khel Jyoti scheme, Signify ensured extended hours of play for the children. "Now we could complete 783 matches in three months. With increased practice time and better preparation, there is a 100% representation of BVL players in the under-17 and under-14 teams of Assam," said Abhijit.

"We carried out the installation of lights in two phases with a strong focus on impact and long-term sustainability. In the first phase, 20 rural volleyball centres were illuminated with permanent 10-metre high masts and high quality floodlights. These centres were selected on the basis of regular participation of young athletes, presence of coaches, equal participation of girls, a dedicated registered local club to take care of the installed lighting system, and the overall performance in the earlier seasons of BVL," said Nikhil Gupta, the Marketing and CSR head of Signify.

The encouraging results after a careful study of the impact of the lights helped Signify get into the BVL in a big way.

"The impact assessment was very encouraging. Children, especially girls, were now able to practice for three to four extra hours in the evening. Many girls started attending evening coaching sessions, and the community began actively participating by coming out to watch the matches. The lighting infrastructure also served other purposes, such as hosting community celebrations like Bihu. That made us support 100 more volleyball grounds with more than 1200 high quality sports floodlights, bringing a wider reach and greater impact across rural Assam," said Nikhil.

"The BVL now has 401 teams and we have seen more than 10,000 children play the game in Assam in the last few years," said Abhijit with pride.

Care had to be taken to ensure the sustainability of the lit up project.

"A proper service chain was created and the responsible teams were briefed about the methods and procedures. The local volleyball clubs or committees now take care of the electricity bills and maintenance of the lighting systems, promoting local ownership and long-term use of the infrastructure," said Nikhil.

If volleyball in the remote parts of Assam became an inspiring story, Signify turned its focus on many other games, especially athletics, to light up the track of many promising talent.

It was Mundgod, a small town in Karnataka, home of the Siddi tribe, a African-origin community with natural talent and exceptional athletic abilities, that benefited from the lighting up drive. Young athletes from this part faced challenges due to limited access to proper training facilities.

Training

Bridges of Sports (BoS), an NGO founded by Nitish Chiniwar, chose to take up the task of training about 50 young athletes from the community in various track and field events. The community ground lacked lighting and that hurdle was crossed with the help of Khel Jyoti.

Nayana Kokare is a shining example for the Siddi community, with her inspiring journey, as she has already won a relay medal for the country in the Asian under-20 athletics championships. Nitish throws more light on her path.

"Nayana is from a Gowli tribal family. Her father is a farmer and mother is a homemaker. Nayana stood out for her dedication and determination, by becoming the first girl from her village to complete 12th grade, a big milestone for her and the community. She was 14 when we identified her talent and took her into our athlete development program. She has been given full support for training, education and life skills. Over the years, her progress has been remarkable, from the State, Zonal, to national and international levels. She was fourth in 200 metres in Asia, and had won a 4 x 100 metre relay medal in the Asian under-20 championship in Korea," said Nitish.

There is more to the success story, and Nayana is not alone. "Today, Nayana is part of our Performance Program in the United Kingdom, training under some of the best coaches, physiotherapists, psychologists, and nutritionists professionals who have helped athletes reach the Olympics and other international events. She is pursuing a course in Sports Management, which will lead her to a brighter future," Nitish said.

"Through our grass-roots mode, we now engage with over 70% of Siddi athletes across many villages, providing them professional coaching, educational pathways and mentorship. The transformation is visible, not just in medals and achievements, but in confidence, discipline and aspiration. One of the best examples is Nimeksha Siddi, who is also now part of our program in UK, along with Nayana. She is receiving elite training and pursuing higher education. Both girls are training hard to qualify for international competitions, including the Olympics, hungry to show the world what is possible, when opportunity meets belief," said Nitish, who states with contentment, "we help young leaders own their future".

Nitish does acknowledge the role of the lights, in lending a better pathway for the young aspirants.

"One of the biggest improvements in our training infrastructure has been the installation of floodlights through the Khel Jyoti initiative. These high-quality lights have made a real difference in how and when our athletes train. In a place like Mundgod, where it is dark early in the morning or after sunset, having access to lighted tracks means athletes don't have to depend on day light.

They can train before school, or late in the evening, helping them stay consistent and focused. The impact of the lights goes beyond the athletes. These lights help host local tournaments, night-time training, and village sports events, encouraging more community participation," said Nitish.

It is not just the rural parts that get support from Khel Jyoti. If the criteria are fulfilled, any scheme can get support in any part of the country.

Sudeva, which scouts football talent across the country and trains them in Civil Lines, Delhi, has got the lighting support. Rani Laxmibai Sports Academy, in Siwan, Bihar, a football and handball centre, run by Sanjay Pathak, a government school teacher, has got lighting support. Over 40 girls from the academy have competed at the national and international levels.

Likewise, Neelam Sahu who has been coaching girls in kabaddi, and helping them reach national and international levels for more than two decades, got the lighting support for her centre at Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya in Dwarka, Delhi. The Har Sahay Inter College in Kanpur, that trains boys and girls in kho-kho got the support. The players from this centre have competed in the Ultimate Kho-Kho league, and also the World Cup held this year.

New initiatives

Signify continues to expand the Khel Jyoti programme with new initiatives. There is a focus on improving sports facilities in Punjab's Schools of Eminence. In a partnership with Hoshiarpur District administration, there is a drive to light up 17 playgrounds that have strong sports training program.

"The selection of grounds was based on their use for regular training sessions, higher athlete participation and the availability of professional coaches. These schools have a history of producing national and international athletes, making them ideal candidates for the initiative. It will support young talent in Hoshiarpur to reach full potential," said Nikhil Gupta.

Even as it engages with former cricket captain Rahul Dravid through a television campaign, "*Hum raaton mein sooraj ugaate hain*", and lights up the prominent cricket grounds in Dharamshala, Ahmedabad and Navi Mumbai that host international matches, Signify is categorical that no region or game is beyond its support.

In fact, the athletics field of the Inspire Institute of Sports (IIS) that is professionally run by JSW Sports, also got lighting support to help elite athletes reach Olympic standards. It has been a satisfying journey for Khel Jyoti so far, even as it ventures further to light up many more sporting arenas, helping many athletes build a shining career.

"Investing in programs focused on sports fosters the holistic development of society and the sporting ecosystem. We strengthen community bonds by encouraging youth participation and instil qualities of discipline and teamwork. The drive builds a healthier society by promoting physical activity. It creates a robust sporting culture in the country, paving the way for future champions and inspiring the next generation," said Nikhil.

Through Khel Jyoti, Signify indeed captures the essence of the mantra, "*Tamasoma jyotir gamaya*".

From darkness, lead me to light!

THE GIST

- Signify has been doing that quietly for some years now, lending a new dimension to the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, by lighting up nearly 200 play grounds
- The company joined hands with the Brahmaputra Volleyball League (BVL) in Assam, founded and managed by the former national volleyball captain, Abhijit Bhattacharya, driving the vision to its fulfilment
- Signify continues to expand the Khel Jyoti programme with new initiatives. There is a focus on improving sports facilities in Punjab's Schools of Eminence

DNA Networks moves HC against Cunha panel report

The commission had conducted inquiry into the stampede under the provisions of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, on the terms and reference notified by the State

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

DNA Entertainment Networks Pvt. Ltd., an event management company, on Thursday moved the High Court of Karnataka challenging the report submitted by the one-man commission of inquiry on the incident of stampede outside the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru during the victory celebrations of Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) team on June 4.

John Michael Cunha, a retired judge of the High Court of Karnataka, had conducted the inquiry under the provisions of the Commissions of Inquiry (CoI) Act, 1952, on the terms and reference notified by the State government, and submitted the report to the government on July 11. "The commission seems to have proceeded in a biased manner as if it is a fault-finding commission rather than a fact-finding commission, and thus report is vitiated," it has been alleged in the petition while pointing out that a copy of the report was not given to the petitioner even though it was leaked to the media.

Scene at one of the gates of the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on June 4. K. MURALI KUMAR

Finding several flaws in the "hastily" conducted inquiry proceedings, the DNA alleged that the entire inquiry process would be violative of the principles of natural justice and contrary to the provisions of the CoI Act, 1952, as no opportunity to cross-examine the witnesses was given to it. "...the haste with which the respondents conducted the inquiry gives the impression that the government wanted to save its skin and that the Commission of Inquiry was a mere eyewash in order to pacify the general public and to deflect the blame from itself by making innocent persons such as the petitioner and its officials a scapegoat," it has been alleged in the petition.

DNA, which participated in the inquiry proceedings before the commission, has also contended that it was not given a copy of the depositions of its witnesses and the other witnesses as well as the documents marked in spite of the making written request in this regard.

Stampede: Government to take legal action against RCB, KSCA, DNA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Approving the findings of the John Michael Cunha's report on the stampede near M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru, the State Cabinet on Thursday decided to initiate legal action against multiple parties, including IPL franchise Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA), and event management company DNA Network. Briefing reporters after a Cabinet meeting, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil said a decision was also taken to initiate departmental inquiry against five suspended police officers, including former Bengaluru city Police Commissioner B. Dayananda, who failed to manage the situation.

The stampede occurred on June 4, during the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) victory celebrations which claimed 11 lives and left several injured.

Civil and criminal cases

Last week, the Cabinet had accepted the report of Michael Cunha Inquiry Commission. When asked whether legal action involved filing criminal cases against the organisers of the event, including RCB, Mr. Patil said, "Legal action includes both civil and criminal cases." Mr. Patil said a departmental inquiry would be initiated against police officers who had been suspended following their inability to control the situation. The Minister said that whoever was responsible and the negligence had been indicted in the Cunha report.

The judicial probe was ordered by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on June 5, a day after the tragedy occurred.

Mother of stampede victim files theft case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The mother of one of the victims, who died in the stampede outside the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium during the IPL victory celebrations of the Royal Challengers Bengaluru team on June 4, has filed a complaint with the Commercial Street police station on Thursday that a pair of earrings her daughter wore was stolen during post-mortem.

Case registered

Based on the complaint filed by Ashwini, mother of 18-year-old Divyanshi, the police have registered a case of theft on Thursday against the staff of the post-mortem section.

Earrings missing

In her complaint, Ashwini said that the earrings, which were gifted by her brother to Divyanshi a year and a half ago, were found missing when the body was handed over to her.

The family suspects that the staff at the mortuary section might have stolen them and sought the police to conduct an investigation.

The police have launched a probe into the matter.

Rowdy sheeter murder case transferred to CID

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Police lapses, brutality, and favouritism are also being alleged

The murder case of a rowdy sheeter, Shivaprakash, in east Bengaluru's Bharatinagar last week has been transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID).

Shivaprakash, 44, was brutally hacked to death by armed assailants near his house in Bharathinagar on July 15. Days later, five people surrendered to the police. Subsequent investigations led to six more arrests, taking the number of suspects to 11.

According to the police, several more were absconding, including the prime suspect, Jagadish.

A top CID source confirmed to *The Hindu* that the case has been transferred to the Homicide and Burglary wing of the CID, but the case files are yet to be handed over from the local police.

According to police sources, the case was transferred due to multiple reasons, including the suspected involvement of influential people.

Shivaprakash's mother, who filed the complaint, has alleged that Byrathi Basavaraj, BJP MLA, had a role in the murder of her son. The police have interrogated the MLA twice, who has been maintaining that he is innocent in the matter.

Considering the gravity of the case, K.G. Halli Assistant Commissioner of Police, Prakash Rathod, was named as the investigation officer. Now, the CID has taken up the probe. Allegations have been made about the suspects being in contact with police officers, which have been denied. The police lapses, brutality, and favouritism were also being alleged.

ED attaches ₹7.02 crore in cyber investment scam

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) on Thursday announced that they have provisionally attached ₹7.02 crore in a cyber-enabled investment fraud case under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

The attached amount was held across 29 bank accounts linked to Cotata Technology Pvt. Ltd. and other associated entities, according to the ED.

The central agency said that the alleged fraudulent scheme was operated through the "ShareHash" mobile application, which promised high returns through cryptocurrency mining.

Hundreds of unsuspecting investors were lured in, with small initial returns offered to build trust, before communication ceased and the app was removed from app stores. The funds were allegedly misappropriated via a complex network of shell companies.

The Directorate of Enforcement initiated its investigation based on an FIR filed by the Cybercrime Police.

The primary entities involved include Cotata Technology Pvt. Ltd., Siraleen Tech Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Crampington Technology Pvt. Ltd., Nileen Infotech Pvt. Ltd., and Moltres Exim Pvt. Ltd.

Rameshwaram Cafe files complaint over blackmail, extortion

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Rameshwaram Cafe has filed a complaint against a group of individuals for allegedly attempting to malign the brand and extort money by staging a false incident of food contamination at its Bengaluru airport outlet.

In a complaint to the city Police Commissioner, Sumanth Lakshminarayanan, the operation head, has filed a complaint alleging blackmail and demand of ₹25 lakh.

He alleged that a group of seven people picked up a quarrel, alleging that the food served to them was bad and then threatened that they will defame and dent the image of our brand by circulating this on social media.

The group allegedly further demanded the owner of The Rameshwaram Cafe to speak to them and compensate or they have to face the consequences. "They also created nuisance in front of other customers. We have taken all the minute precautions and followed all protocols given by the airport authority regarding hygiene and quality of food," he said.

Viral on social media

The news went viral on social media.

The management tried to reach the person who made allegations, and two hours later, the person allegedly returned the call and straightaway demanded ₹25 lakh in cash to be delivered on Brigade Road, Mr. Lakshminarayanan said.

The cafe said that earlier there were several attempts where people with malafide intentions voluntarily put insects, stones in the food, and were caught red handed in some of their other outlets.

The police have launched a probe into the matter.

Wall painter arrested on the charge of killing pregnant wife over domestic row

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Hennur police on Thursday detained a wall painter for allegedly smothering his 22-year-old pregnant wife over a domestic row in Thanisandra three days ago.

The deceased, identified as Sumana, hailed from Uttar Pradesh and lived with her husband Shivam in a rented house in Thanisandra. According to the police, Sumana died three days ago, but her body remained inside the house until it began to decompose.

The accused Shivam reportedly went to work the day after her death, and the following night, he is said to have consumed alcohol and had food while his wife's body was there. By the next day, as the stench grew stronger, neighbours grew suspicious and found Sumana dead. Shivam had already fled by then.

The Hennur police, who rushed to the spot, said there were no external injuries, but bleeding from the nose. The Hennur police suspect that she had been smothered to death and are awaiting the post mortem report to confirm the cause of death.

Food delivery executive arrested for filming women on roads

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Ashoknagar police have arrested a 19-year-old food delivery executive for allegedly secretly recording women walking on streets in and around M.G. Road in Bengaluru, and uploading the videos on his social media account after adding Bengali and Hindi songs in the background. The social media monitoring cell police took cognizance and tracked down the accused Dilawar Hussain M.D., a native of Manipur who works as a food delivery executive in Bengaluru.

On social media

According to the police, the accused has an Instagram account.

He was recording videos of women walking on the streets and posting them with the tagline 'Bengaluru night life'.

"This was to increase the number of followers," an official said.

***Suo motu* case**

A *suo motu* case has been registered. Sub-Inspector Nabi Saab tracked down the accused and booked him under the IT Act.

Man held for sexually harassing girl out to buy groceries

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Govindapura police on Thursday arrested a man for sexually harassing a girl while she was out to buy groceries recently .

The accused, identified as Mohammad Maroof Sharief, is now facing charges of sexual harassment and public indecency.

According to the police, Sharief reportedly made obscene gestures and sexually harassed the victim on the middle of the road.

The victim broke free, rushed home and informed her mother. Shocked, the family later approached the police and filed a complaint.

CCTv camera

Based on the complaint, the police tracked down the accused through the CCTv camera footage recovered from in and around the scene of crime.

CCB takes over probe into hoax email bomb threats; seeks inputs from intelligence units

Chetan B.C.
BENGALURU

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) has taken over the investigation into the hoax email bomb threats sent to 43 schools in the city last week. The CCB officials have also held discussions with intelligence units to gain a fresh perspective on the case.

On July 18, panic spread across 41 schools in the city, following bomb threats that prompted the schools to send students home just hours after classes had begun.

The threats were later turned out to be a hoax. Four days later, two more schools in eastern and central Bengaluru received similar email threats.

Although individual complaints had already been registered, the CCB has now taken over the investigation, including the two cases filed subsequently.

On July 18, panic spread across 41 schools in Bengaluru, following bomb threats that prompted the schools to send students home just hours after classes had begun. FILE PHOTO

A senior officer overseeing the investigation told *The Hindu* that they are determined to get to the root of the matter, and hence they discussed several interconnected issues with other divisions of the police department and intelligence units.

According to a source, investigators held a meeting on Wednesday with the Intelligence Bureau (IB), the Internal Security Division (ISD), and the Anti-Terrorism Squad/Unit (ATS). "The agenda of the meeting was to gather diverse perspectives on the case and brainstorm potential new strategies to approach the investigation," the officer told *The Hindu*.

The participating departments typically handle classified cases and possess historical data, which could offer leads and assist the investigation, another source said.

The senior officer said that they received valuable inputs from these departments, but declined to share further details, citing the ongoing nature of the investigation. But the officer revealed that a request had been sent to the email service provider used by the suspect to issue the hoax bomb threats, and a response is awaited. The suspect also employed a Virtual Private Network (VPN) to mask their identity, the officer noted.

Police are optimistic about receiving useful information from the service provider, as their preliminary assessment indicated a favourable stance.

However, a senior officer experienced in handling cybercrime cases warned that relying solely on a response from the email service provider could stall the investigation. This caution is based on past cases where similar requests for information did not produce any useful outcomes.

According to data reviewed by *The Hindu*, miscreants sent 53 hoax bomb threat emails to various institutions and establishments in 2023, 64 in 2024, and 20 in 2025, excluding the recent threats. Of these, fewer than 10 cases from 2023 have been solved, while 11 from 2024 have been resolved.

All the cases that were successfully solved were relatively simple, as the threat emails were not sent using a VPN, the officer explained.

Moreover, international avenues such as Interpol and the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) have proved ineffective for investigators handling hoax email threat cases. By the end of 2024, the Karnataka's Criminal Investigation Department had sent nearly 30 MLAT requests, but only seven received responses, and none of those contained actionable details, according to a CID source.

What deters pilots from seeking help for mental health concerns

Despite growing awareness of mental health issues post-pandemic, many pilots remain reluctant to seek help for anxiety, depression, or burnout — not just due to social stigma, but out of fear that disclosure could affect their medical clearance and earning capacity

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

A day after the world saw live visuals of Air India's Boeing 787-8 aircraft turn go up in flames 32 seconds after taking off from Ahmedabad for London on June 12, a pilot commanding the Air India Delhi- Frankfurt flight suffered a panic attack as he lined up the aircraft on the runway.

The pilot, who was operating the same type of aircraft involved in the crash, a Boeing 787, promptly returned it to the boarding gate after informing the air traffic control that a crew person onboard had fallen ill.

A few days later, a young First Officer, also on Air India's Boeing 787 aircraft, reported sick for his flight as he could not sleep before his duty as his mind kept replaying the different scenarios that may have occurred inside the cockpit moments before the worst air accident in the country in three decades in which 260 people were charred to death.

"I was on a downward spiral," the young pilot told *The Hindu* on condition of anonymity.

The last message he had exchanged with the First Officer of the ill-fated flight, Clive Kundar, the social media feed and the relentless television coverage "weighed a little heavy on me," he said. He and a few friends "cried it out" as an exercise in collective purging to cope with the tragedy that had struck their close colleagues.

In the days following the crash, many First Officers and cabin crew would report sick as they battled post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Heightened safety concerns prompted many passengers too to cancel their Air India bookings. This along with a combination of other factors that included additional checks ordered by the DGCA forced Air India to take a "safety pause" and reduce international flights by 15% for a few weeks. The airline also reached out to pilots and cabin crew offering them peer support, as well as an in-house psychologist in case of mental health concerns.

The trauma among the crew post the crash and suggestions of deliberate pilot action resulting in a crash have once against brought under focus the mental health of Indian pilots who are known to be under tremendous stress because of a multitude of factors which include occupational challenges as well as systemic failures that excessively penalise the cockpit crew. But one of the dark secrets of the industry remains the reluctance among pilots to access medical help for mental health concerns because of a perception that they may either be grounded leading to loss of pay, or their licence being cancelled.

"Some airlines provide pilots with relatively stable rosters, but in many others, unpredictable schedules and inadequate notice of changes disrupt personal routines, making it difficult to plan family or social time," says Captain Subhashish Majumdar, a former airline executive and senior commander with long-haul international flying experience. "In many organisations even casual leave requires prior sanction or has to be justified with documentary evidence, and calling in sick at the last moment can lead to administrative scrutiny. Additionally, time-zone changes, graveyard shifts and night flying can leave a pilot's body clock out of sync for days."

Mr. Majumdar acknowledges that he personally benefited from a stable schedule during much of his career. But many others – especially those flying high-frequency domestic sectors across the industry – face relentless rosters and consecutive layovers that leave little room for rest or meaningful family engagement. "Pilots across airlines speak of strained relationships, missed birthdays and school events, and the emotional fatigue of being physically present but emotionally distant."

Over time, the cumulative toll of such schedules can strain personal bonds and foster a sense of isolation. Within aviation circles, this phenomenon is informally referred to as Aviation-Induced Divorce Syndrome.

He acknowledges, however, the pressure airline managements face. "This is a cost-sensitive industry, with wafer-thin margins, volatile input costs, and fierce competition. Managements walk a tightrope between viability and crew welfare.

Despite growing awareness of mental health issues post-pandemic, many pilots remain reluctant to seek help for anxiety, depression, or burnout – not just due to social stigma, but out of fear that disclosure could affect their medical clearance and earning capacity. "The concern is real," says Mr. Majumdar. "Even if stigma is easing, the consequences of seeking help are uncertain. In a profession where medical fitness determines livelihood, that becomes a serious deterrent."

In focus: The trauma among the crew post the crash and suggestions of deliberate pilot action resulting in a crash have once against brought under focus the mental health of Indian pilots. REUTERS

Even if stigma is easing, the consequences of seeking help are uncertain. In a profession where medical fitness determines livelihood, that becomes a serious deterrent, says expert

Indeed, a study in 2022 by William Hoffman, a U.S.-based neurologist with interest in pilot health care behaviour found that 56.1% of the 3,765 U.S. pilots who participated in a survey reported a "history of healthcare avoidance behaviour" due to a "fear of losing their aeromedical certificate". Indian pilots too speak of complicated, lengthy and inefficient regulatory processes that in some cases have led to year-long groundings for misdiagnoses deterring pilots from reporting medical concerns. The situation is likely to worsen for mental health concerns, exacerbated by stigma and a lack of clear guidance from regulators.

DGCA circular

In February 2023, the DGCA issued a circular on "mental health promotion" for flight crew and air traffic controllers, mandating airlines, charter operators, and flying schools to establish non-punitive peer-support programmes to encourage self-reporting. DGCA-empanelled doctors, who conduct pilots' annual medical exams, were directed to use a 29-point questionnaire to assess cognitive functions and alertness. Pilots with a poor score have to be referred to the DGCA's Medical Directorate.

On July 22, the DGCA reminded empanelled doctors to use the questionnaire. "Some of us have since asked the DGCA how we are to grade pilots and whether it is to be done on a scale of 1 to 10 or alphabetically. We also need to know what is the protocol to be followed if and when we find a concern," says Sangeeta Kujur, a DGCA-empanelled examiner and former Chief Medical Officer at Air India Express where she set up the peer support programme for the airline. But the medical circular provides no details to pilots about what this scrutiny may entail, and for which conditions.

Since the Germanwings crash of March 2015, deliberately caused by the first officer Andreas Lubitz who had been previously treated for suicidal tendencies and declared unfit to work by his doctor, which he kept from his employer, regulators around the world have overhauled their policies. Europe introduced a pilot medical database, random health checks, and peer support programmes. The FAA clarified that mental health issues rarely disqualify pilots (0.1% rejection rate), listing conditions like psychosis and bipolar disorder that do. The FAA's 2016 Pilot Fitness Aviation Rulemaking Committee recommended peer support, enhanced training for medical examiners, approved new medications that can be taken during active flying, and public campaigns to reduce stigma, alongside maintaining a safe medication list for pilots.

(jagriti.chandra@thehindu.co.in)

THE GIST

The trauma among the crew post the crash and suggestions of deliberate pilot action resulting in a crash have once against brought under focus the mental health of Indian pilots who are known to be under tremendous stress because of a multitude of factors

Many pilots — especially those flying high-frequency domestic sectors across the industry — face relentless rosters and consecutive layovers that leave little room for rest or meaningful family engagement. Over time, the cumulative toll of such schedules can strain personal bonds and foster a sense of isolation

In February 2023, the DGCA issued a circular on "mental health promotion" to encourage self-reporting. DGCA-empanelled doctors, who conduct pilots' annual medical exams, were directed to use a 29-point questionnaire to assess cognitive functions and alertness. But the medical circular provides no details to pilots about what this scrutiny may entail, and for which conditions

As climate change events spike, key focus should be drowning prevention: experts

WORLD DROWNING PREVENTION DAY

Zubeda Hamid

At the end of April this year, in Tamil Nadu a completely avoidable drowning incident took place – a four-year-old girl, while attending a summer camp at a kindergarten, fell into a water tank in the premises, and died. Media reports indicate that the 11-feet deep tank was uncovered. Beyond the immediate police and government action that was taken however, the larger question remains as to how safe urban spaces – schools, roads, public places and homes – are, when it comes to preventing drowning deaths.

When we think of drowning, we think of large waterbodies – rivers, lakes and the ocean – but not many people realise that a person can drown even in one inch of water, says Jagnoor Jagnoor, a public health researcher and programme lead for injury, The George Institute for Global Health. "Bucket deaths, for instance, are very common," she says.

Significantly, research indicates that younger people are more likely to die of drowning in canals, dams, swimming pools, water pits, tanks, wells etc., with one-third of all drowning deaths being in the 0-14 age group, says Rakhi Dandona, Director of Injury Prevention Centre at the Public Health Foundation of India, over email. "Absence of a caretaker, unsafe environments and lack of swimming skills are risk factors for the 0-15 age group, while unsafe environments, lack of toilets and the use of alcohol are risk factors for those above 15. Importantly, most people who died by drowning were alone at the time of the event – this has implications for prevention," she notes.

Impact of climate change

What can make badly-designed or non-maintained urban spaces dangerous, is that with a rise in climate change events, heavy rain and flooding are beginning to affect an increasing number of cities, turning even small pits, sewers and channels on roadsides into potential hazards.

In the January 2025 paper *'Drowning in Our Progress? Tackling the Growing Menace of Urban Floods in India,'* by Panna Chandra Nath and Aditya K. Josh, the authors state that every year, lakhs of people are affected by urban floods in India, and almost all major cities face the problem, in addition to smaller cities. "From 2011 to 2020, floods in India claimed approximately 1,500 human lives annually," the paper states.

The World Health Organization in its December 2023 Global Status Report on Drowning Prevention estimated that 75% of fatalities in flood-related disasters are drowning deaths. Along with increased frequency and severity of flood disasters and unplanned urbanisation, the number of people exposed to hazards is rising, it adds.

Taking precautions: Government, communities and the private sector have a key role to play in preventing drowning deaths. FILE PHOTO

Why are channels uncovered, pools unfenced, drains unsilted and water tanks not lidded so often in our cities? The issue, says a senior urban planning expert, lies with both design and maintenance. Urban engineering is not always prioritised as it should be, leading to badly-designed utilities that do not account for pedestrian space and safety. Even when the design is good and is implemented, it is often patchy.

The other major issue, is to do with maintenance."How to finance servicing and upkeep is a problem for almost all cities. What happens then is that the utility is built, but due to a lack of maintenance or repairs, it does not function as it should, or is incomplete for long periods, posing a hazard that is compounded by even small amounts of rain."

Prioritising flood resilience

One critical gap is that 'Smart' cities (under the Smart Cities Mission) are not being built with flood resilience in mind, points out Dr. Jagnoor. Even flagship schemes like the Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission do not prioritise floods and urban flooding in their strategies, states the research paper.

Planning for flooding, designing for it, and increasing awareness among first-responders should all be part of making cities more resilient towards urban floods, she says.

While the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) now takes cognisance of urban flooding, with the Management of Urban Flooding guidelines released in 2010, the WHO notes that policies for disaster risk management in India do not specify drowning. Nor is drowning in urban floods considered in the National Strategy for Prevention of Unintentional Injury, which focuses on drowning prevention as one of its goals, both critical gaps that need addressing, says Dr. Jagnoor.

Where, ultimately, does the responsibility lie? While the government has a major responsibility, communities and the private sector have a role to play as well, in ensuring flood resilience, safety and preventing drowning deaths.

"The private sector is responsible for a large chunk of constructions and some responsibility has to be taken," says the urban planning expert.

At smaller levels too, at home and outside, upkeep of facilities, regular monitoring, ensuring that safety equipment works and that safety laws are implemented in practice are crucial. This includes identification of potential hazards and measures to mitigate them. "We, as the community, have a major role in this. If we do not use unsafe facilities and equipment, we reduce the chance of drowning and we also then force the facilities for upkeep," says Dr. Dandona.

As the WHO says anyone can drown; no one should.

(zubeda.h@thehindu.co.in)

DESIGN your Future!

Committed to sustainable, culturally rooted design, Avani Institute of Design nurtures and celebrates this ethos as a leading center for design education in India.

Avani Institute of Design, nestled in the serene foothills of the Western Ghats in Calicut, Kerala is a centre of excellence for architectural and design education in India. Envisioned by renowned architect Tony Joseph and co-founded by Ar. Vinod Cyriac, Ar. Vivek P.P., and Ar. Brijesh Shaijal, over a decade, Avani has evolved as a movement fostering innovative design thinkers.

Avani actively collaborates with some of the brightest minds in art, architecture and design, nurtured by a distinguished Advisory Panel of eminent practitioners from across the globe, including Prof. Neelkanth Chhaya, Prof. Durganand Balsavar, Prof. Roger Connah, Ar. Peter Rich, Artist Bose Krishnamachari, Ar. Soumitro Ghosh, Ar. Sanjay Mohe, and Ar. Bijoy Ramachandran. This dynamic group of experts, coupled with a dedicated team of academics and practitioners, spearheads Avani's pedagogical vision, converging diverse design perspectives. Launched with its flagship Bachelor of Architecture program in 2015, Avani is set for significant expansion in 2025 with the introduction of the Integrated B.Des + M.Des Dual-Degree five-year program. This visionary growth marks Avani's development into a multidisciplinary hub for creative exploration and research across art, architecture, and design, while remaining steadfastly committed to the sustainable environs, social values, and responsible citizenship.

Avani is a not-for-profit institution that recognises merit for admissions and scholarships, and do not entertain donations or recommendations of any kind.

Artist Bose Krishnamachari at Avani Exhibition, Bengaluru.

Advisors

Prof. Neelkanth Chhaya

Prof. Durganand Balsavar

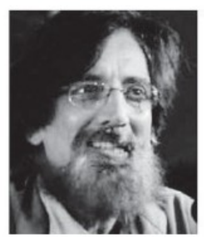
Prof. Roger Connah

Ar. Peter Rich

Artist Bose Krishnamachari

Ar. Bijoy Ramachandran

Ar. Dean D'Cruz



Ar. Sanjay Mohe

Ar. Soumitro Ghosh

Student work exhibition, First year - Foundation Studio

Why Avani ?

More than a college, Avani is an immersive lab of thriving creativity where design is not just taught, but lived. Avani's internationally-aligned, NEP - prompted Design curricula are rooted in the belief that - architecture and design do not exist in isolation but are closely integrated with the visual and liberal arts, socio-cultural norms, philosophy and technological advances. Design evolved as a collaborative endeavour to engage with the unique challenges of contemporary and future society.

The institute offers state of art facilities such as on-campus residence with hygienic mess facility; well-stacked library, well – equipped workshops and labs, indoor and outdoor sports/game facilities. Avani conducts international study tours, and engages resource persons from across the world to promote experiential learning environment.

Who can apply?

If you have completed 12th standard, & have :

Artistic flair
Critical eye
Articulation skills
Design thinking capability
Aptitude for visualization
Creative problem solving-ability

If you dream of becoming:

Architect
Interior Designer
Product Designer
Furniture Designer
Graphic Designer
Jewellery Designer

Then design your future at Avani!

First Integrated Design Program

Integrated B.Des + M.Des Dual Degree five-year Course at Avani is the first-of-its-kind programme in Kerala, aligned with the National Education Policy, reflective of emerging design needs. This transformative five-year journey empowers young creative minds to evolve into socially responsible designers through multidisciplinary learning rooted in ethos, environs, community, culture, lifestyle, and economy. With specialization options in Product / Interior Design, the curriculum bridges foundational knowledge and futuristic skills. The programme also offers multiple exit options — a Bachelor's Degree after 4 years, and a Masters Degree after 5 years — providing flexibility while ensuring depth.

Avani Institute of Design, Calicut, Kerala

Governing Council

Ar. Tony Joseph
Chairman

Ar. Brijesh Shaijal

Ar. Vinod Cyriac

Ar. Vivek P.P.

B.Arch [5 Years]

Bachelor of Architecture

ELIGIBILITY
- Pass in 12th Standard with 45% aggregate marks in Physics, Chemistry and Maths
- A valid National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) score.
- 17 years of age as on last date of admission.
- Fill in the Application of 2025-26 on avani.edu.in

B.Des+ M.Des [5 Years]

Integrated Bachelor of Design + Master of Design (Dual Degree)

ELIGIBILITY
- The candidate shall have passed 12th Std. (in any stream with minimum 50% marks)
- Valid score in NATA/UCEED/NID/NIFT/KS-DAT/KI-DAT.
- 17 years of age as on last date of admission.
- Fill in the application of 2025-26 on avani.edu.in

www.avani.edu.in
admissions@avani.edu.in
+91 974 6478705 / +91 495-2337000

Council of Architecture — B.Arch
All India Council for Technical Education — B.Des + M.Des
Affliated to University of Calicut

APPLY ONLINE

AVANI
INSTITUTE OF DESIGN

ADVT

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Share of Indian households with access to toilets

95.1 in per cent. In a written reply in the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Jal Shakti V. Somanna quoted findings from the Swachh Survekshan Grameen survey 2023-24. Only 39.9% households reported segregating waste into biodegradable and non-biodegradable categories, it said. PTI

The number of Palestinians who died of malnutrition in July

48 Gaza's Health Ministry has said that 59 Palestinians died of malnutrition so far in 2025, up from 50 in 2024. A man and a woman died of malnutrition on Wednesday, the Shifa hospital said. Of the 113 that died of malnutrition in Gaza since 2023, 81 were children, Gaza's Health Ministry said. PTI

Border clash deaths in Thailand-Cambodia conflict

11 In an escalating border clash on Thursday, along with the deaths, at least 28 others were injured. Six locations saw fighting with tanks, artillery, and jets. Most civilian casualties occurred in Thailand's Sisaket province when rockets struck a petrol station. Both nations shut border crossings. AFP

Aircraft technical defects reported by Indian airlines

183 Five Indian airlines reported technical defects in their aircraft to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), the Civil Aviation Ministry told the Lok Sabha. Of these, 85 were from the Air India Group, 62 from IndiGo, and 28 from Akasa Air. SpiceJet reported eight cases. PTI

People killed in aircraft crash in Russia's Amur region

48 A passenger plane crashed in Russia's Amur region on Thursday, killing everyone. The twin-propeller Antonov-24, was en route from Blagoveshchensk to Tynda. Among the passengers were several children and one foreign national. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

Follow us facebook.com/thehindu X.com/the_hindu instagram.com/the_hindu

Decoding ECI's counter affidavit on SIR

What has the Election Commission of India argued in its counter affidavit filed in the Supreme Court? Why is seeking a citizenship test through the Special Intensive Revision exercise in Bihar problematic? What are the legal and logistical challenges involved?

EXPLAINER

Prasenjit Bose

The story so far:

The Election Commission of India (ECI) filed a counter affidavit in the Supreme Court on July 21, in response to the writ petition challenging the constitutionality of the special intensive revision (SIR) exercise currently underway in Bihar. The text in the 789-page ECI affidavit is only 88 pages long; bulky annexures run into almost 700 pages. Around 625 pages of these annexures comprise representations received by the ECI from various political parties, along with their annexures.

What's the rationale for a citizenship test?

A preliminary review of the complaints annexed with the ECI's affidavit reveals that they mostly pertain to typical defects like duplication of names in the voter list, non-deletion of deceased voters, exclusion of eligible voters and fake or fraudulent voter registration.

None of the complaints involve the electoral rolls of Bihar, nor does any of the complaints allege instances of illegal migrants from foreign countries being included in the electoral rolls in any State. The complaints, which account for almost 80% of the volume of ECI's counter affidavit, do not provide any evidence or justification for the ongoing SIR exercise in Bihar or a nationwide citizenship test of electors across the country, for which the affidavit vehemently argues.

Is it legally tenable?

The counter affidavit invokes Article 326 which specifies that "every person who is a citizen of India... shall be entitled to be registered as a voter", and also Section 15 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 which mandates the preparation of electoral rolls "under the superintendence, direction and control" of the ECI, to insist on its having statutory authority to undertake a 'de novo' preparation of electoral rolls, requiring electors already registered in the electoral rolls to submit fresh documentary proof of their citizenship. The affidavit also rebuffs the apex court's advisory to include Aadhaar card, the Elector's Photo Identity card (EPIC) and ration card in the list of permissible documents for the SIR exercise.

There are several fallacies in the ECI's arguments. First, the SIR process shifts the onus of citizenship proof on all existing electors whose names were registered by the ECI through due process. Another due process is also available for the deletion of non-citizens from electoral rolls on the basis of specific complaints backed by evidence. Have those due processes been rendered dysfunctional by the overwhelming nature of inclusion errors vis-a-vis illegal migrants?

If so, the ECI's affidavit should have been able to present precise data on the number of complaints received on the inclusion of foreign nationals or illegal migrants in the electoral rolls of Bihar, and all other States for that matter. In the absence of such evidence, ECI's logic that inclusion in electoral rolls through summary revisions are only provisional and only those added or verified through intensive revisions like SIR have more authenticity, does not hold.

Second, the Representation of the People Act, 1950, does not make any distinction between electors added through summary revisions and those added through "special intensive revisions". While section 21(3) of the law permits the ECI to direct a "special revision" for individual constituencies or their parts, the word "intensive" does not find any mention in the law. The Registration of Electors Rules, 1960 were amended in 1987 to introduce two separate categories of electoral roll revisions, summary and intensive. However, even the 1960 rules do not provide any specific definition or modalities for "intensive" revisions. The statutory foundation of SIR, therefore, remains fuzzy.

Third, the arguments provided by ECI's affidavit in rejecting the Supreme Court's advice to include EPIC, as one of the documents to prove eligibility, contradicts the exemption granted to electors included in the 2003 electoral roll from furnishing any document under SIR 2025 other than "the relevant extracts of the said part showing their name in the 2003 electoral roll". ECI's affidavit states that the children of electors included in the 2003 rolls have also been allowed to use this avenue to prove their eligibility. Such privileging of the inclusions in the 2003 electoral rolls, over and above all electoral rolls published by the ECI in two subsequent decades, is legally questionable.

The ECI's affidavit mentions that the 2003 Bihar SIR guidelines prescribed four indicative documents as proof of citizenship, namely "NRC Register where available; Citizenship Certificate; valid passport; or Birth Certificate." However, a copy of the 2003 SIR guidelines have not been provided with the affidavit. Was there any house-to-house enumeration and citizenship verification for the entire electorate during the 2003 Bihar SIR on the basis of such documentary requirements? How many illegal migrants were detected and deleted from rolls in 2003? These facts need to be ascertained and debated before accepting inclusions in the 2003 electoral rolls as probative evidence of citizenship under SIR.

Fourth, the ECI's affidavit asserts the applicability of the contrived citizenship criteria introduced by the Citizenship Amendment Act, 2003 in SIR 2025; whereby (a) Each voter has to submit documentary proof of his/her date and place of birth; (b) For those born between July 1, 1987 and December 2, 2004, additional documentary proof of date and place of birth of either father or mother is required; and (c) For those voters born after December 2, 2004, both parents' date and place of birth are required to be submitted.

The constitutionality of this controversial citizenship amendment legislation, which had proposed to introduce a National Register of Indian Citizens (NRC), remains under challenge before the apex court. The rules under this Act were notified even before the CAA, 2003, was passed and notified, casting doubts over its legal status. Most importantly, the Registrar General of India never issued any order to initiate the NRC, as stipulated in the citizenship rules. Hence, the NRC does not exist anywhere in India, except for the State of Assam. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had clarified in December 2019 that his Cabinet had never discussed the initiation of the NRC since 2014.

When the authorities statutorily mandated to initiate the NRC and its underlying citizenship scheme apropos CAA, 2003 have decided not to proceed with it till date, can the ECI claim to have any legal mandate to implement the same citizenship test in Bihar, in lieu of an electoral roll revision?

What will be the impact?

The ECI's counter affidavit has tried to counter criticisms regarding the exclusionary nature of the SIR exercise by highlighting that filled up enumeration forms have already been collected and digitised from over 90% of the 7.89 crore electors in Bihar. The moot point here is that the ECI's affidavit does not disclose the number or proportion of digitised enumeration forms which are accompanied with the required documents. Rather, the affidavit mentions that "each elector who has submitted the enumeration form with or without documents will be included in the draft roll to be published August 1, 2025."

Thus, the coverage of over 90% of the electors in the SIR process has been attained by postponing the requirement for document submission along with the enumeration forms. The scrutiny of enumeration forms and documents by the electoral registration officers are to commence only after the draft rolls are published. This does not testify for the inclusivity of the entire SIR process.

The status of the SIR exercise reported in the ECI's affidavit contains data till July 18, 2025. The updated status provided by the ECI's press note on July 22 is reproduced in Table 1. Till then, around 21.35 lakh (2.7%) electors were yet to receive and submit their enumeration forms. Major political parties of Bihar were officially requested by the ECI to connect with the remaining electors, through their functionaries and booth level agents.

Till July 24, around 7 lakh forms were not received. Inability of the ECI in ensuring cent percent coverage through its own machinery of booth level officers (BLOs) and volunteers further exposes the impracticality of the SIR schedule.

Moreover, over 53 lakh (6.7%) electors were not found at their residential addresses by the BLOs. While around 1 lakh among them are reported as "not traceable" and another 7 lakh as multiple enrolments, the numbers of deceased electors at over 21.6 lakh (2.7%) and those permanently migrated at 31.5 lakh (4%), are quite significant. Whether errors are involved in such exclusions can be known only after the publication of the draft rolls.

The constituency-wise distribution of these exclusions also remains unreported. The impact of deletion of migrated electors can be substantial if they are clustered within a few constituencies and demographics.

Why is ECI not accepting Aadhaar, ration cards?

ECI's non-acceptance of the apex court's advisory on including Aadhaar and ration cards in the list of indicative documents rests on tenuous grounds. The ECI's own enumeration form for SIR 2025 seeks the Aadhaar number from all electors, albeit on a voluntary basis. The ECI's affidavit states that statutorily "Aadhaar is not proof of citizenship", which is specious logic, because statutorily the ECI has no mandate to conduct a citizenship test.

In the case of ration cards, the ECI has cited "widespread existence of fake ration cards" as the ground for non-acceptance. A data table in ECI's affidavit on the coverage of some of the eleven eligibility documents for SIR 2025 in Bihar show 13.89 crore "Residence certificates" and 8.72 crore caste certificates issued from 2011 to 2025, far exceeding the total number of electors in the electoral rolls. If residence certificates can be accepted as eligibility proof of SIR 2025, despite their total number exceeding Bihar's current aggregate population, how can ration cards be rejected as a document on the grounds of being forgery-prone?

Any widely accessible official card or document in a vast country like India would be prone to counterfeits – currency notes offering the most common example. Solutions need to be found in plugging systemic loopholes, enhanced vigilance and effectively designed counter-measures.

Unless the ECI revises its rigid insistence on citizenship determination, the Bihar SIR exercise is likely to result in a fiasco bigger than the four-year-long NRC process in Assam between 2015 and 2019, which was eventually rejected by all those who demanded it after reportedly spending ₹1,600 crore of public money.

(Prasenjit Bose is an economist and activist)

Chasing the rolls

Table 1 presents the updated statistics of the special intensive revision in Bihar, as released by the Election Commission of India, on July 22.

A booth level officer checks documents during the special investigation revision to electoral rolls at Kamalpur village, in Bihar. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

TABLE 1

	Total	Percentage (%)
Total Electors (as on 24th June 2025)	7,89,69,844	100.00
Enumeration Forms Received	7,16,04,102	90.67
Enumeration Forms Digitised	7,13,65,460	90.37
Electors not found at their addresses so far	52,30,126	6.62
Probably Deceased Electors reported so far	18,66,869	2.36
Probably Permanently Shifted Electors reported so far	26,01,031	3.29
Electors Identified as Enrolled at Multiple places	7,50,742	0.95
Electors not traceable	11,484	0.01
Total electors covered	7,68,34,228	97.30
Remaining Enumeration Forms yet to be received	21,35,616	2.70

Source: Election Commission of India

THE GIST

The Election Commission of India's (ECI) counter affidavit in response to the ongoing special intensive revision exercise in Bihar defends its statutory authority to require electors to prove citizenship through fresh documentation.

However, the affidavit faces criticism for lacking concrete evidence of illegal migrants in the State's electoral rolls, questioning the legal and practical basis of the SIR process.

The ECI's refusal to accept Aadhaar and ration cards as documents of eligibility, despite their widespread use, further complicates the legitimacy and inclusivity of the ongoing electoral revision.

OFFICE OF ASSISTANT CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
TIPTUR SUB DIVISION (TERRITORIAL) DIVISION
Vidya Nagar, Opp Kalpataru College B.H. Road,
TIPTUR - 572 201 Email: acftipaturu@gmail.com

Letter No: ACF/TSD/E-TENDER/CR-12/2025-26 DATE: 22-07-2025

E-Tender Notification

E-Tender is invited by the Forest Department, Tiptur Sub-Division, Tumkur Territorial Division pertaining to different ranges under IDWH, CAMPA Scheme for the year 2025-26. The Bidder needs to be Registered as Forest Contractor during 2025-26 for Forestry works can participate for the following works.

Total No of Works	03
Highest Value of the Work	Rs 67,20,000/-
Value of the EMD	Rs 1,68,000/-
Lowest Value of the Work	Rs 67,20,000/-
Value of the EMD	Rs 1,68,000/-

Bid Submission Closing Date & Time : 05-08-2025 at 3:00 PM
Technical Bid Opening Date : 08-08-2025 at 3:00 PM
Price Bid Opening Date : 09-08-2025 at 3:15 PM

For more information about this tender may contact our office at office timings and more details on https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forests,
DIPR/TUM/RO-77/25-26/Oysters Tiptur Sub Division, Tiptur

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

ABSTRACT TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two cover system) (Through e-procurement portal only)

Item wise tenders are invited through e-procurement portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the following works:

BELLARY THERMAL POWER STATION

(1) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT3252. Dated: 18.07.2025. **Name of the work:** Removal of Dead Ash Stock Inside Silo 04 & 05 at Unit-3 Ash Handling System at BTPS during AOH. Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders: 02.08.2025 upto 17:00 hrs. Further details can be had from office of the **Executive Engineer (AHP-2). Mobile: +91 91416 09479.**

RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION

(02) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT3250. Dated: 18.07.2025. **Name of the work:** Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of One number of Submersible Pumps at Settling Tank. **EMD:Rs.89,225/-.** Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders: 01.08.2025 upto 16:00 hrs. Further details can be had from office of the **Executive Engineer (CAM-1).**

RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION

(03) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT3225. Dated: 19.07.2025. **Name of the work:** Online Air Ingression testing of condenser by Helium Leak Detection Test in Unit 2, 3 & 4. **EMD: Rs.44,000/-.** Last Date for receipt of tenders: 01.08.2025. Further details can be had from office of the**Executive Engineer (TM-1). Mobile: +91 94495 97971.**

ಮೈಸೂರು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಮೈನ.ಪ್ರಾ/ಆಆಸಶಾ/ಪ.ಪ್ರ–4/ತು.ಚಾ/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23.07.2025

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದಿಂದ ರಚಿಸಲಾದ ಬಡಾವಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತುಂಡು ಭೂಮಿ ಅಥವಾ ಉಳಿದಿರುವ ಭೂಮಿಯನ್ನು ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಮಾಡುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ **ನಅಇ 2 ಎಸಿಬಿ 2022, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.11.2024** ರಂದು ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿಗಳನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸಿ ತುಂಡುಭೂಮಿ ಅಥವಾ ಉಳಿದ ಭೂಮಿಯನ್ನು ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದೊಳಗೆ ತುಂಡು ಭೂಮಿ ಹಂಚಿಕೆಯೆ ಕಾರ್ಯವಿಧಾನಗಳನ್ನು ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳಿಸಲು ನಿರ್ದೇಶಿಸಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅದರಂತೆ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದಿಂದ ರಚಿತವಾದ ಬಡಾವಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾತಿ ಪಡೆದಿರುವ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರು ತಮ್ಮ ನಿವೇಶನ/ಮನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿಕೊಂಡಂತೆ ತುಂಡುಜಾಗ ಲಭ್ಯವಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂತಹ ತುಂಡುಜಾಗವನ್ನು ಮಂಜೂರು ಮಾಡುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಮೈಸೂರು ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಅರ್ಜಿಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಎರಡು ಬಾರಿ ಕಾಲಾವಕಾಶವನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಮುಂದುವರೆದು, ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರು ತಮ್ಮ ನಿವೇಶನ/ಮನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿಕೊಂಡಂತೆ ತುಂಡುಜಾಗ ಲಭ್ಯವಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂತಹ ತುಂಡುಜಾಗವನ್ನು ಕೋರಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಅಂತಿಮವಾಗಿ **ದಿನಾಂಕ:23.07.2025** ರಿಂದ **30.09.2025** ರವರೆಗೆ ಕಾಲಾವಕಾಶವನ್ನು ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸಿದೆ. ನಿಗಧಿತ ಕಾಲಾವಕಾಶ ನಂತರ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರು ಈ ಅವಕಾಶವನ್ನು ಸದುಪಯೋಗಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ. ತದನಂತರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿಯಂತೆ ನಿಯಮಾನುಸಾರ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ ಕ್ರಮವಹಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಎಂದು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–
ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ,
DIPR/MYS/KAVITA/03/2025-26 ಮೈಸೂರು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE VISIT
www.thehinduads.com
CALL: Bengaluru: 98455 29981 ▪ 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 ▪ 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 ▪ 2335700

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Kelvin Desai S/O, Rameshbhai Desai R/o 1b-814, Suncity Gloria Apartment, Sarjapura Main Road, Doddakannalli, Bangalore -560035 have changed my name to Kelvin Rameshbhai Desai for all purposes.

I, ROHITH, s/o Manjunath Chikkayya Devadiga, No.185/F–3611, 3rd Cross, Muneshwara Temple Rd, VBHCS 4th Phase, Girinagar, BSK III Stage, Blr–560085. Have Changed My Name to Rohith Manjunath. Vide Affdavit on 23/07/25.

I, Tara Begum Sheik Alias Sheik Tara Begum W/O Vishal Kiritkumar Rathod & D/O Sheik Meera Vali Residing At Flat No-E-1101, 11th Floor, E-Tower, Godrej Air, Hoodi Main Road, Next To Hoodi Metro Station, Hoodi, Po: Hoodi, Dist: Bengaluru, Karnataka-560048, Have Changed My Name To Tara Vishal Rathod For All Future Purposes

I, Alexandar S/o Stephen Residing at a 204 Emmanuel Meadows, Electronic City Phase 2, Kammasandra, Po-Electronics City, Dist- Bengaluru. Karnataka- 560100, Have Changed My Name to Alexandar Stephen for All Future Purposes.

BUSINESS OFFERS

INVESTMENT REQUIRED
M SAND & JELLY CRUSHER
Factory required
INVESTORS
(0) 95974 15379
msandjally@gmail.com

REAL ESTATE

Looking to Buy 1-2Acr Factory/ shed land. Broker/ Owners Ct: 9900155588

SITUATION VACANT

FINANCE

WANTED
CA/ CA final with Tally and advance excel not exceeding 30 years. (Job training for 6 months in Dubai). Interested applicants shall email their updated CV mentioning the position applied and expected salary
Email your resume to
info@new-oil.org

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public are hereby notified that my client intends to purchase the property bearing **Site No. 149**, measuring 216.00 Sq. Mtrs. or 2325.02 Sq. Ft. situated in 'Cooperative Housing Federation Layout - 1st Phase' formed in the lands bearing Sy.Nos. 56/3A, 56/3B, 56/4, 59/5, 59/7 to 10, 60, 61, 62, 63/1, 64, 65/1A, 65/2A, 65/2B, 65/2C and 66/2 situated at Chunchanakuppe Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, within BMRDA limits, with Property ID No. 150200300700827362 issued by the Chunchanakuppe Grama Panchayat bounded on the East by: Site No.148, West by: Site No.150, North by: Site No.146, South by: Road, from its owner **Smt. Bharathi S.,** W/o. Sri. Nagaraju and anybody having objection or any claims thereover, may submit such objections to the undersigned, within **15 days** hereof, along with the copies of all the documents being relied upon, failing which, my client will proceed to purchase the property regardless of any such claims or objection.

Muchandi and Co., Advocates, G-1, Tasker Park Apts., No.10, Park Road, Tasker Town, Near Indian Express, Bengaluru-560051, M: 9883345555, 9945766566, 080-41713335, E: info@muchandi.com

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder
Call our toll-free number 1800 102 1878
Or write to us at customercare@thehindu.co.in
Scan the QR code to register your feedback
THE HINDU thehindu businessline. FRONTLINE SPORTSTAR Young World THE HINDU

आमेर विकास एवं प्रबन्धन प्राधिकरण
पुरानी विधानसभा भवन, हवामहल के पास, जयपुर, टेलीफोन नम्बर - 0141-2600032
ई-मेल आई.डी. :- adma.jaipur@gmail.com

क्रमांक :- कार्य निदेशक/एडमा/लेखा/2025-26/885 दिनांक :- 21/07/2025

अल्पकालीन ई-बिड संख्या-07/2025-26

वित्त मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार SASCI योजना में स्वीकृत Development of ICONIC Amber, Nahargarh and Surrounding Area, Jaipur में विभिन्न सिविल एवं विद्युत कार्यों हेतु राज्य सरकारों/केन्द्र सरकार/निगमों/बोर्ड कार्यालयों में सक्षम/निर्धारित श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से द्विभागीय खुली बिड ई–प्रोक्योरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया के माध्यम से ऑनलाईन वेबसाईट **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर आमंत्रित की जाती है जिनका विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाईट **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** एवं **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर उपलब्ध है, जो देखी व पढ़ी जा सकती है।

(अल्पकालीन ई–बिड संख्या–07/2025–26 की कुल लागत राशि रूपये 1194.00 लाख)
NIB Code : ADA2526A0008
बिड यू.बी.एन. नम्बर :– **ADA2526WSOB00029, 00030, 00031, 00032**

राज.संवाद/सी/25/6815 कार्यकारी निदेशक (कार्य)

ಜಲಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರವರ ಕಚೇರಿ
ನಂ.1, ನೀರಾವರಿ ತನಿಖಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಾವೇರಿ ಭವನ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ,
ಗೋಕುಲಂ, 4ನೇ ಹಂತ, ಮೈಸೂರು – 20. ದೂ. 0821–2411420

ಸಂ.: 05/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.07.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ)

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ನಂ.1, ನೀರಾವರಿ ತನಿಖಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಇವರು ಜಲಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಹಾಗೂ ಅಧೀನ ಕಛೇರಿಗಳಿಗೆ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ **ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲದಡಿ 13 ಜನ ವಾಹನ ಚಾಲಕರ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುವ ಕೆಲಸಕ್ಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮುಖ್ಯ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಜಿಯೋಮ್ಯಾಟಿಕ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಐಟಿ ಉಪಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸಲು** ಅರ್ಹ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿದಾರರು/ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ರೂ. 52.80 ಲಕ್ಷ ಮೌಲ್ಯದ **ಒಟ್ಟು 3 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ (1 ಸೇವೆ + 2 ಸರಕುಗಳ)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ **ದಿ: 21–07–2025ರ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ** ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆ **ದಿ: 29–07–2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ,** ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: **30–07–2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.** ಆಸಕ್ತ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **http://kppp karnataka.gov.in** ಮೂಲಕ ತಮ್ಮ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನ್ನು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಮೇಲ್ಕಾಣಿಸಿದ ವಿಳಾಸ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/–
DIPR/MYS/674/SA/2025-26 ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: CEE/Tr(OP)ZM/SEE(O)/AEE-4/25-26/3093 Date: 24.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Mode Only)

KPTCL invites "Tender against Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/CEE/ TZM/ SEE(O)/AEE-4/2024-25/582/NIFPS/Call-3 dated: 21.07.2025 for the work of Supply & Providing (Supply & Fixing) of Nitrogen Injection Fire Extinguishing System for existing 20MVA Power Transformers pertaining to Hootagalli Operations division of various 66/11kV Stations coming under Transmission (Operations) Zone, Mysuru."

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The detailed notification regarding subject enquiry in the E-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website: https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in on the hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or to https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after **25.07.2025**. Any other details can be had from the Office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer Electy., Transmission (Operations) Zone, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavana, FTS Compound, N.R. Mohalla, Mysuru-570007. Telephone: 0821-2455770/2457275.

University Of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore
NAAC A+ Accredited
Estate Office, Naik Bhavan, GKVK, Bengaluru-560 065.

No. EO/SPO/kppp/5/2025-26 Dated: 22-07-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Kpp Portal only)

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore has invited Tender in the prescribed form as per Standard Tender Document KG-1, from the reputed firms for the procurement of Equipment's.

Blank Tender Documents can be downloaded from **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Last date and time for uploading the tender on **05.08.2025 upto 4:00 p.m.** The Technical Bid will be opened on **07.08.2025 at 10:30 a.m.** The Financial Bid will be opened on **11.08.2025 at 10:30 a.m.** in the Tender Committee Room of Estate Office. Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned during working hours and also refer UAS **website: www.usabangalore.edu.in. Help Desk 91-8046010000, +91-8068948777, 09240214000 / 09240214001, support@eprochelpdesk.com.** The University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons.

Sd/-
DIPR/CP/RO2014/AAPL/2025-26 ESTATE OFFICER

Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limited
(Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking)
Upper Bhadra Project Division No. 6, Somaguddu Road, Challakere. Phone/Fax No.: 08195-250307,
e-mail: ubpee06@gmail.com

No: VJNL/UBP/EE/D-6/CLK/TEN.NOTN/2025-26/436/437/438
DATE: 23.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)

The Executive Engineer UBP Division No.06, Challakere, invites the tenders on behalf of the Managing Director, VJNL, Bangalore under 4701 grants for the following three works coming under this division. The Indent No. 1) 266-Amout put to tender Rs. 173.70 Lakhs, EMD 2.61 Lakhs, 2) 267-Amout put to tender Rs. 84.68 Lakhs, EMD 1.70 Lakhs and 3) 269-Amout put to tender Rs. 296.56 Lakhs, EMD 4.45 Lakhs. The contractors can download and submit the completed bid documents throught KPP-Portal web site KPPP portal website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 23.07.2025 to 07.08.2025 upto 17.00 hours. The pre-bid meeting will be held on 31.07.2025 at 11.30 am at Offiice of the Chief Engineer, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Ltd., Upper Bhadra Project Zone, Chitradurga. Details such as Qualification of Bidders/Tender conditions/Tender Processing fee etc can be obtained through KPP Portal or from the office of the under signed during the office hours. The tender will be opended on 11.08.2025 at the office of the Executive Engineer, VJNL, UBP Division No.6, Challakere through KPP-Portal. Tender accepting authority reserves all the rights to revise, modifiy or cancel the tender at any stage.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/247/2025-26 **Sd/-Executive Engineer, VJNL, Upper Bhadra Project, Division 6, Challakere**

GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited
Regd. Office Plot No. 10, Paigah Colony, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad-500003, Telangana, India CIN U40109TG1997PLC028483
(A wholly owned subsidiary of Guru Amar Das Thermal Power Limited, GATPL)
(A step down wholly owned subsidiary of Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, PSPCL)
HOD-HR & Admin, GATP, Goindwal Sahib, invites E-Tender for the work of :

1	**Tender Enquiry No. 051/GATP/ADMINVEHICLE/50007353 dated 24/07/2025 "Services for Vehicle Hiring of 2 x 270 MW Thermal Power Plant GATP, Goindwal Sahib"** at 2x270 MW Guru Amardas Thermal Plant (GATP), Goindwal Sahib, Distt: Tarn Taran, Punjab as per details given in the tender specifications"

For detailed NIT & tender specifications, please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 24/07/2025 from 17:00 Hrs. onwards.
Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
GATP-38/25 1079/12/2025-26/1554

Government of Karnataka
Tender Notice No.: 03/2025-26/ Date: 22.07.2025

Notice Inviting Tender

Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chikkamagaluru invites Tender through KPP Portal regarding work of constructing Fecal Waste Processing Unit in Koppa, Kadur, Tarikere Taluks of Chikkamagaluru District. Details of capabilities of undertaking or having undertaken works of Minimum Rs. 67.23 lakhs and Maximum Rs. 79.49 lakhs should be attached as per Standard Tender Document-KW 3 should be attached. Contract can be awarded to contractors only if they have the minimum qualifications as mentioned in Act 1. Tender for works should be submitted through KPP Portal from 22.07.2025 to 07.08.2025 up to 5.00 PM. Tender will be opened on08.08.2025 at 5.00 PM. In case this day is a holiday the next day will be considered. Notificati on can be read on https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in For further details the case worker can be contacted during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chikkamagaluru
DIPR/ckm/ksmca/25-26/43/655

RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, KARNATAKA
4th 'T' Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru – 560 041, Ph No.080-26961928

No:RGUHSB/RRAC/PROC(SI)/2/2024 Date: 24.07.2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION (RFP)

The Registrar, Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences invites tender for Supply of Stationery and Printing Items of RGUHS. More details on the services are provided in the attached Terms of Reference. **(Tender No: RGUHSK/2025-26/IND0018)**

Tender document available for downloaded	24/07/2025 11:06 Hrs
Pre Bid meeting	30/07/2025 11:30 Hrs
Last date for receipt of Tender	07/08/2025 17:29 Hrs
Date of Sample Submission	07/08/2025 17:30 Hrs
Opening of Technical Bid	11/08/2025 11:30 Hrs
Opening of Financial Bid	13/08/2025 11:30 Hrs
Place of Opening of Tender	Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bengaluru

More details can be fetched from website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Sd/-
DIPR/SI/2003/2025-26 REGISTRAR

ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.
ನಂ:ದಾಮಪಾ:ಕಾಅ1.ಇ.ಟೆಂಡರ್:15:2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:19–07–2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ
(ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 15 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 05–07–2025ರಂದು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಿದ್ದು, ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಂದಾಗಿ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ (ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ 01 ರಿಂದ 05, 07, 11) 07 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಕಾರಣ ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 06, 08, 09, 10 ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಂ.ದಾ.ಮ.ಪಾ:ಕಾಅ1:ಇ. ಟೆಂಡರ್:17:2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 16–07–2025 ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 04, 05ರ ಎರಡು ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಬದಲಾಗಿ **DMA/2025-26/IND5073** ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್‌ನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸುವುದು. ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ **www.davanagerecity.mrc.gov.in** ರಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಸಹಾಯಕ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: **+91–8046010000 +91–8068948777** ರಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ, ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಗಮನಿಸುವುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ವಾಸಾಇ/ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ/206/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26 ಸಹಿ/–ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ

भारतीय खाद्य निगम FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA
REGIONAL OFFICE : No. 10, EAST END MAIN ROAD, 4th 'T' BLOCK, JAYANAGAR, BENGALURU - 560041

सं. आरओ के ए–32.0014.0/5/2025–कॉन–रो केए दिनांक: 19.07.2025
No. RO KA-32.0014.0/5/2025-CON-RO KA Date: 19.07.2025

ई–निविदा सूचना / e-Tender Notice

जी ई एम पोर्टल के माध्यम से "दो बोली प्रणाली" के तहत दो वर्ष हेतु सीडब्ल्यूसी मन्नागुड्डा/एसडब्ल्यूसी मंगलुरु/ सीडब्ल्यूसी पनांबूर से पुराने मंगलुरु बंदरगाह तक खाद्यान्न आदि के परिवहन और यूटी लक्षद्वीप के 10 द्वीपों (यानी अगाथी, अमिनी, बितरा, चेटलाट, कदमत, कल्पेनी, कावारत्ती, किल्टान, मिनिकॉय और एंड्रोथ) तक शिपमेंट और लोडिंग/अनलोडिंग सहित 10 द्वीपों पर यूटी प्रशासन के गोदामों तक परिवहन के लिए नियमित मल्टी–मोडल अनुबंध (स्टीवेडोरिंग और एच एंड टी) बंदरगाहों पर संचालन और यूटी लक्षद्वीप के गैर–बर्थ सुविधा द्वीपों पर खुले समुद्र में संचालन के लिए ऑनलाइन निविदा आमंत्रित की जा रही है । ऑनलाइन बोलियां 11.08.2025 को अपराह्न 02:00 बजे तक प्रस्तुत की जानी हैं। एनआईटी और निविदा प्रपत्र **"www.fci.gov.in"** और **"https://gem.gov.in"** पर उपलब्ध हैं । पंजीकरण, प्रशिक्षण और बोलियों को ऑनलाइन प्रस्तुत करने के लिए, निविदाकारों को **"https://gem.gov.in"** पर देखने का अनुरोध किया जाता है।

Online Tenders for regular **Regular Multi-Modal Contract for Transportation of foodgrains etc. from CWC Mannagudda/ SWC Mangaluru/ CWC Panambur to Old Mangaluru port & Shipment to 10 islands of UT Lakshadweep (i.e Agathi, Amini, Bitra, Chetlat, Kadmat, Kalpeni, Kavaratti, Kiltan, Minicoy & Androth) and Transportation to UT Administration godowns at 10 islands including Loading/ Unloaing (stevedoring and H&T) operations at ports and open sea operations at non-berth facility islands of UT Lakshadweep** for two years is invited under "Two Bid System" through GeM portal. Bid should be submitted online within **2.00 PM on 11.08.2025.** NIT and tender forms are available in **"www.fci.gov.in"** & **"https://gem.gov.in"**. For registration, training and submitting bids online, tenderers are requested to visit **https://gem.gov.in.**

महाप्रबंधक (कर्नाटक)
GENERAL MANAGER (Karnataka)

Govt. of Karnataka
Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society, Bengaluru
(An Organisation of Government of Karnataka)
No.8, MSB-1, 6th & 7th Floor, Karnataka Marketing Federation Building, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru-560052.

No: KREIS/INFR/OTH/98/2025-ADMN/E-214831 Date: 23.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Only)

Short term Re-Tenders have been invited on 22.07.2025 for **Supply of Utensils to Residential Schools functioning under the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society across Karnataka,** through e-Portal vide Indent No. **KREIS/2025-26/ IND0064/CALL-2** and the last date for receipt of tenders is **06.08.2025.** The details may be viewed in the **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** website.

Sd/- Joint Director (Admin) and Tender Inviting Authority, KREIS
DIPR/CP/YC/2016/2025-26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
BALLARI MEDICAL COLLEGE AND RESEARCH CENTRE, BALLARI.
Reg.No:205/1995-96-Recognized by Medical Council of India, New Delhi vide No:MCI-57(3)/79-Med/1912, Dtd.16-04-1979
e-mail-ids:directorbmcrcbellary@gmail.com,
website : https://vims.karnataka.gov.in

NO. BMCRC/TENDER/GNL-1/02/2025-26
DATE:-21.07.2025

e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited from providing Man power for **Cleaning & Sanitation Services to Medical College Hospital, BMCRC Ballari** under Two bid system through e-procurement portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.inof Government of Karnataka as per the KTPP Act-1999-2000. The interested bidders are request to submit Tender in above said e-portal from **21.07.2025 to 04.08.2025 up to 5.00 PM.** The total approximate cost of tender is **Rs.185.00 Lakhs.** Further details may be obtained in the above said website and www.bmcrc.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- Dean & Director, BMCRC, Ballari
DIPR/Ballari/297/KSMCA/2025-26

KARNATAKA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Parisara Bhavana, No.49, Church Street, Bangalore-560001
Phone : 080-25581383, Fax : 080-25586321

No. PCB/141/BLD/2022/2025-26/1484 Date: 14/07/2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER - CALL-1
(Through GOK e-procurement platform http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) invites tenders from eligible tenderers through GOK e-procurement platform **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** by The Member Secretary for the following work:

Name of the work: Tender for CAMC for 30 KVA, 60 KVA and 80 KVA UPS System at Nisarga Bhavan, S.G.Halli, Bengaluru. Approx Value of the work: **Rs.6.38 lakhs.** All payments such as tender cost, EMD etc., shall be made in e-payment mode only.

For more details, please refer e-procurement website: **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
DIPR/CP/2009/AKAR/2025-26 CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER-2 (A/C)

Our motto is to minimize waste generation through judicious use of natural resources

KARNATAKA SKILL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (KVTSDC)
3rd Floor Koushalya Bhavana Bannerghatta Road Dairy Circle Bangalore -560029,
Phone No: 080-29522222
E-Mail ID : skilldev.2017@gmail.com

KSDC/NALJAL/CR-34/2025-26 Dated: 24.07.2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Karnataka Skill Development Corporation has invited the **"NAL JAL MITRA –JAL VITARAN SANCHAALAK-2.0"** Tender Two cover bid system as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act-2000 through e-procurement portal. Bids are invited from the eligible bidders for **"Selection of Partner for Procurement and Supply of Tool Kits to Trainees who have completed Jal Vitaran Sanchaalak - Jal Jeevan Mission Skill Training"** Tender Document Number: **KSDC/2025-26/IND0010** Tender Document is Available for download from: **24.07.2025** Last date for Proposal Submission: **12.08.2025.** The e-tender notification documents & tender processing fees. EMD details are available in e-procurement web portal-https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Helpdesk– : Ph No: +91-9240214000/+91- 9240214001 or you may also contact the office during working hours.

Sd/- Tender Inviting Authority and Executive Director-2 KSDC, Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/2007/AKAR/2025-26

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUP

IN THE LIMELIGHT

A still from the '*Vinland Saga*' anime. CRUNCHYROLL

The gospel of '*Vinland Saga*' and its life-changing meditations on pacifism

As Makoto Yukimura's moving historical treatise on non-violence drops its final chapter after a two-decade long run, fans find a hopeful blueprint for a gentler way of living, as its titular utopia embodies the inextinguishable optimism of a world devoid of bloodshed

Ayaan Paul Chowdhury

By the time Japanese author Makoto Yukimura's seminal seinen manga publishes its 220th and final chapter today, it will have spanned two decades, 28 collected volumes, and two critically acclaimed seasons of anime. Widely considered as one of modern manga's most influential and evocative stories, *Vinland Saga* has sold over seven million copies, won the prestigious Kodansha Manga Award, and built a global congregation of devout fans. Despite its success, it still resists easy summary. It presents as a Viking epic of blood, vengeance and conquest, but harbours a stirring moral parable about remorse, forgiveness, and the long, difficult work of laying down one's sword.

Inspired by the real-life Norse explorer Thorfinn Karlsefni, who led an expedition to North America around the turn of the 11th century, Yukimura set out to reconstruct the world of medieval Scandinavia with fastidious detail. He read Icelandic sagas – *Erik the Red*, *The Greenlanders*, *The Flateyjarbók* – though he later confessed that the source material was too long and dense to fully absorb. Instead, he travelled to Scandinavia, studied Viking law and shipbuilding, consulted anthropologists, and even created full-scale models to ensure historical fidelity with near-scholarly devotion. But the facts were never the point. The real Thorfinn's journey ended in failure, and Yukimura wanted to imagine what it would look like if it didn't.

As a child, Thorfinn watches his father die and is consumed by a Hamletian thirst for revenge. By the series' midpoint, hollowed by grief, he finds a new vision: a vow of nonviolence, and a dream of a land where no one owns another, and no one draws a sword. This becomes the essence of Vinland – a utopia worth striving for, even if never found.

'Echoes of great moral epics'

Yukimura has rarely drawn attention to his influences, but his story hums with echoes of the great moral epics that preceded it. He has often cited *Fist of the North Star* as his entry point into manga, but *Vinland Saga* draws from a broader lineage of Dostoevsky's psychological torment, Kurosawa's tragic grandeur, and the lyrical, spiritual minimalism of Terrence Malick and Shūsaku Endō.

At first, the story seduced readers with brutality. In its early arcs, *Vinland Saga* offered the baity spectacle of Nordic warbands slashing their way through medieval England. But as the chapters wore on, Yukimura gradually subverted the expectations he had so carefully cultivated. The swordplay gave way to introspection, and the battlefield faded into farmland. The manga became slower, quieter, and immeasurably deeper.

The phrase "I have no enemies," first spoken by Thorfinn's father and later claimed by Thorfinn himself, has become the story's most striking refrain. It appears on posters, surfaces in comment threads, and circulates online like a secular prayer; emblematic of the story's moral arc. Though it sounds simple, in the context of the story, it marks a hard-earned philosophical commitment. In Buddhist thought, it echoes *metta*, or the cultivation of boundless goodwill toward all beings. In Christianity, it recalls Christ's command to love one's enemies. In Stoicism, it aligns with Marcus Aurelius' belief in understanding over judgment, and action guided by reason rather than impulse. In postcolonial thought, it resists the machinery of 'othering' that makes violence seem natural. Yukimura draws on this rich theological lineage to suggest that "I have no enemies" doesn't deny conflict, but rather rejects the moral architecture that makes violence seem inevitable.

Yukimura, a self-avowed pacifist, has said he would sooner go to prison than take up arms, even under government coercion. That conviction gives *Vinland Saga* its definitive force as a story set a millennium ago that speaks directly to the carnage of now. With clannish bloodlust and righteous warfare currently fueling the most defining atrocities of our time, *Vinland Saga*'s radical, almost naive faith in a world without violence feels more vital than ever. That its titular utopia would later birth one of history's most brutal empires only deepens the irony. And yet in its belief in redemption, it insists a better world is still worth the reach.

Questions that linger

The parallels may not be precise, and *Vinland Saga* does not offer prescriptive solutions to modern crises. But its questions linger: How do people break free from cycles of violence? What does justice look like when forgiveness is possible, but memory endures? Can a society built on conquest ever truly become peaceful? The story doesn't pretend these are easy questions, and Thorfinn's path is full of doubt and contradiction. But Yukimura insists, again and again, that refusing to dehumanise others is the first step.

Over time, *Vinland Saga* has cultivated a devoted, soul-searching following. Many have turned to it for solace in depression or as a catalyst to let go of rage. Its hopeful creed offered a blueprint for a kinder, gentler way of living, and nurtured one of the most thoughtful, generous fandoms in contemporary pop culture. As online spaces grow louder with manospheric posturing, Thorfinn has fostered a countercurrent of healthy masculinity, encouraging a generation of men to pursue empathy, accountability, and emotional growth over dominance or vengeance. That a slow, meditative story could thrive alongside testosteronic shounen offerings is a testament to its emotional gravity. YouTube essays, Reddit confessions, and blog threads have long extolled the virtues of this beautiful alchemy Yukimura has achieved.

Vinland Saga is often grouped with *Berserk* and *Vagabond* as part of a loose cannon of modern seinen – three extraordinary, long-running epics centred on men forged in violence, each quietly threaded with pacifism. Today, it will become the only one of the three to reach its intended conclusion. As the final chapter approaches, there is a palpable sense of farewell in the air. Fans across the globe are bracing for the inevitable goodbye, already penning long letters of gratitude to a story that helped them survive the years.

A millennium ago, a Norse explorer imagined a land without swords. In our time, a Japanese mangaka handed us that dream again. Now it's ours to carry forward, as far as it will go. Vinland is somewhere just past the horizon.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Some significant events occurred today. Here is a quiz on observances, birthdays and everything else that happened on the day

Abhinaya K

QUESTION 1

On this day in 2007, a woman was sworn in to this top post in the country. She was the first woman to hold the post. After her, only one other woman has held the post. Identify the person.

QUESTION 2

World Embryologist Day is celebrated every year on July 25 to mark the progress in fertility and reproductive medicine. Why is it celebrated on July 25?

QUESTION 3

On this day in 1984, this woman astronaut became the first woman to perform this activity in space. Identify the astronaut and activity.

QUESTION 4

Air France flight 4590 crashed on this day in 2000, killing all aboard and four others on the ground. Where did the incident occur?

QUESTION 5

American painter Thomas Eakins was born on this day in 1844. Which of the following is not one of his paintings: The Chess Players, Maud Cook, Cowboy Singing and Blue Dancers.

Visual Question:
Identify this iconic movie that was released on this day in 1993 starring Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks. Also name the director of the film. AP

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. What is the most common type of arthritis that causes joint pain and stiffness due to wear and tear of cartilage? **Ans: Osteoarthritis**
2. Name one autoimmune form of arthritis that primarily affects the joints and can also impact organs like the lungs or eyes. **Ans: Rheumatoid arthritis**
3. The medical specialist who treats arthritis is called a _____. **Ans: Rheumatologist**
4. Regular physical activity can help reduce arthritis symptoms. True or False? **Ans: True**
5. Which parts of the hand are commonly affected by osteoarthritis? **Ans: Fingertips and the base of the thumb (also wrist)**
Visual: Identify this historical figure who made an important medical discovery related to arthritis. **Ans: Sir Alfred Baring Garrod**
Early Birds: K.N. Viswanathan | Sonali Das | Tom Alan Faith | Sukdev Shet | Mohan Lal Patel

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"I don't like attending those classes. I wish I didn't have to attend them. You know..."

"...stop whining, will you? I am sick and tired...?"

"...stop what? Did you say wining? You know I don't drink."

"W.h.i.n.e. is pronounced the same way as w.i.n.e., but their meanings are entirely different."

"What does w.h.i.n.e. mean?"

"It has several different meanings. When someone whines about something, it means he/ she complains about it in a manner that annoys you. For example, there are days when my boss whines non stop."

"What does he whine about?"

"About everything. When things don't go according to plan, he starts whining."

"He sounds like my uncle. He whines all the time. My sister, on the other hand, is pretty tough. Even if she is in a bad situation, she never whines."

"Unlike you! You are a whiner!"

"A whiner! Is a whiner someone who whines?"

"That's right! You are the biggest whiner I've ever met."

"I certainly am not a whiner. You should meet some of my friends. They..."

"Let's not get into an argument. But tell me, why are you taking so many extra classes?"

"My father thinks it will help me do better in school."

"I can understand that. But by taking so many classes, aren't you spreading yourself too thin?"

"Spreading yourself too thin? What's that supposed to mean?"

"When you spread yourself too thin, you try to do so many things that you don't end up doing anything well. Nowadays parents want their children to get involved in all kinds of activities. They actually spread them thin."

"That's true. My cousin attends computer classes in the morning and as soon as he gets back from school, he takes tennis lessons. And every other day, he takes music lessons. He is really tired by the end of the day."

"I can imagine. I don't like to spread myself too thin."

"Maybe you should."

"What do you mean?"

"You could lose a little weight, you know! Ha! Ha!"

"What! Are you saying I'm fat?"

"Not fat, exactly. But you're getting there. You've put on a lot of weight, you know."

"I.. well. I I.. er.."

"...what's the matter? You're not saying anything."

"I guess I am tongue-tied."

"Tongue-tied? Does that mean speechless?"

"Yes, that's right. When someone is tongue-tied, they are unable to say anything because they feel shy or nervous. For example, when the little boy saw the audience, he became completely tongue-tied. Most people become tongue-tied at some time or the other."

"That's true."

"So you think I should lose weight?"

"Yes, you do."

"But I'm not fat. You know..."

"...stop whining."

Published in The Hindu on May 27, 1997

Word of the day

Desultory:
marked by a lack of definite plan or regularity, or purpose

Synonyms: random, aimless, inconstant

Usage: *His desultory answers made it clear he wasn't paying attention*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/desultorypro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /dɛsəltri/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

World IVF Day

25th July 2025

ADVERTISERS' FEATURE

IVF: Three Letters Towards Hope and Family

No couple thinks they'll need IVF. It's rarely part of the plan. But for many, it becomes a path carved by resilience, guided by science, and fuelled by something very simple: hope.

IVF, or In Vitro Fertilisation, often enters the picture after the word infertility is spoken, not as a fear, but as a diagnosis. It can be a confronting word, but it also offers something else: a direction.

IVF isn't just a medical intervention; it's an emotional journey built on ultrasounds, hormone injections, blood tests, and countless decisions that require both strength and support.

This year's World IVF Day revolves around a theme that beautifully captures its essence: Celebrating Hope, Advancing Science.

It highlights the dual nature of IVF—the heartfelt desire to build a family, and the incredible medical advancements that now make it possible for more people than ever before.

When the journey begins

The journey typically begins with a diagnosis that natural conception may not be possible or may not be easy.

This realisation brings a swirl of emotions: grief, confusion, anxiety, but also clarity.

For many couples, it offers a concrete next step after months or even years of uncertainty.

What follows is a detailed

conversation with fertility specialists who guide the couple through what IVF entails—from hormonal stimulation and egg retrieval to fertilisation in a lab and eventual embryo transfer. It may sound technical—and it is—but it's also deeply personalised.

Every protocol is tailored to the individual needs of the patient, based on age, medical history, hormone levels, and many other factors.

Science, with a human touch

While IVF is rooted in precision medicine and advanced technology, it's also a process that demands patience and emotional strength.

The waiting periods can be the hardest part. Waiting to see if the ovaries are responding to medication. Waiting for fertilisation. Waiting for implantation. Waiting for the pregnancy test. But here's the thing: with the right support system—medical, emotional, and relational—this process becomes more than bearable. It becomes empowering. And science is moving fast. Success rates today are significantly higher than they were even a decade ago.

Techniques like ICSI (Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection), blastocyst transfers, and embryo freezing have given couples more options, more flexibility, and more chances at a successful pregnancy.

A customised path forward

Every IVF cycle is unique. Some couples may find success in the first attempt, while others might need more than one cycle. There may be roadblocks, like poor egg retrieval, failed implantation, or an embryo that doesn't grow as expected.

But advancements in diagnostics and treatment allow doctors to tweak and adapt the plan along the way.

Fertility centres today offer comprehensive care—psychological counselling, diet and lifestyle guidance, and constant communication—that makes the experience less daunting and more manageable.

The focus is no longer just on the outcome, but also on the couple's well-being throughout the process.

More Than Just a Procedure

IVF is often spoken about in numbers: success rates, hormone levels, embryo grades. But behind those numbers are real people, real stories, and real joy. For many, the child born through IVF is no less natural, no less magical, and no less loved than any other.

For others, even if IVF doesn't result in a pregnancy, it offers something just as important—closure, understanding, and a sense of having explored every possibility.

The Bottom Line

IVF is not the 'last resort' it was once thought to be. It's a valid, science-backed option that opens doors for millions of couples around the world.

It represents the beautiful intersection of medical innovation and personal courage.

So on this IVF Day, we celebrate both the hope that drives people to pursue parenthood and the science that makes it possible.

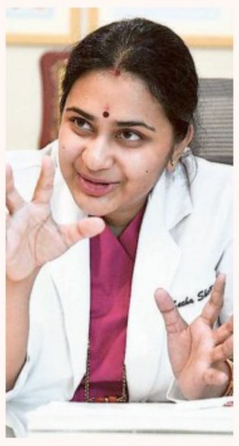
Haarshini Agarwal

World IVF Day Message from Dr. Sneha Shetty

On this World IVF Day, we celebrate a journey filled with hope, science, and resilience.

Fertility treatment has evolved tremendously—from simple hormonal therapies to advanced IVF techniques, embryo freezing, and genetic screening.

What once seemed impossible is now a reality for many couples dreaming of a family.



Dr. Sneha Shetty

At Vriksh Fertility, we witness miracles every day. Behind every IVF cycle is a story of courage, love, and trust. As a fertility specialist, it's a privilege to walk this path with so many determined couples.

Today, let's acknowledge not just the progress in medical science but also the emotional strength of those who never gave up.

Dr. Sneha Shetty
Clinical Director & Chief Fertility Specialist
Vriksh Fertility – HSR Layout & Whitefield
www.vrikshfertility.com
Call : 8797 08 08 08

The Right Age Matters for a Healthy Pregnancy

Planning early improves your chances — age, lifestyle, and guidance make all the difference. Procreation brings immense joy — but for many, the journey to parenthood can be challenging. Fertility problems are on the rise, with 10% of couples today facing unexplained infertility, where no clear medical reason is found. Shifting lifestyles, delayed marriages, and postponing childbearing often make natural conception more difficult.

Common Obstacles to Conception

- Sedentary lifestyle, obesity, stress, poor nutrition
- Smoking, alcohol, and substance use
- Late planning due to personal or professional reasons
- Undiagnosed or untreated reproductive issues

Preparing for Parenthood — Mind & Body

- Before turning to assisted options, couples should make healthy lifestyle changes:
- Follow a doctor-recommended diet
- Exercise regularly
- Practice yoga, meditation, or stress-relieving habits
- Drink at least 3 litres of water daily
- Take folic acid supplements at least 3 months before trying to conceive
- Avoid alcohol, tobacco, and recreational drugs

Natural Conception First

Doctors recommend trying natural conception for at least 6 months before exploring assisted reproductive techniques.

Intercourse 2–3 times per week increases the likelihood of conception. Consulting a fertility specialist early ensures timely guidance and personalized care.

IVF is Not Always the First Option

IVF is often seen as the go-to solution, but it's not always the immediate step.

Doctors usually begin with simpler methods like IUI (Intrauterine Insemination) if needed. IVF may be advised if other methods don't work — but it's important to know that success depends on many factors like age, health, and stress levels. IVF is not just a treatment; it also helps identify underlying causes of infertility.

The Ideal Age to Have Children

- Try to conceive your first child before age 30
- Aim to complete your family by age 35
- After age 40, fertility drops significantly, and complications may increase — including higher risk of miscarriage and genetic conditions

Egg Freezing: A Smart Option if You Want to Delay Pregnancy

If you're not ready for parenthood yet — for personal, professional, or medical reasons — egg freezing allows you to preserve your fertility. This safe and effective technique gives women the flexibility to conceive later, using their healthier, younger eggs for IVF when the time is right.

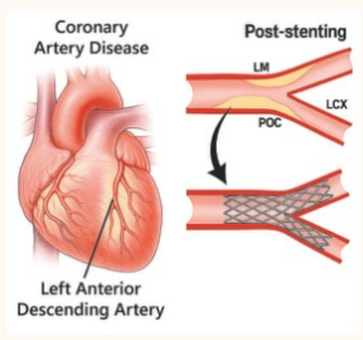
Dr. Manisha Rajpal Singh,
Additional Director – Gynaecology & Subspecialist in Reproductive Medicine & Minimal Access/Robotic Surgery, Fortis Hospital, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru

ADVERTISEMENT

kauvery hospital Bengaluru

Setting Karnataka's Benchmark in Cardiac Excellence - Kauvery Hospitals, Bangalore

For more than 25years, **Kauvery Hospitals** has provided compassionate, cutting-edge healthcare. Today, its centres in **Electronic City** and **Marathahalli** are establishing a stronghold in Karnataka's cardiac care landscape, managing everything from congenital heart defects in children to complex heart transplants, with the precision of modern medicine and the warmth of personal care.



Interventional Cardiology Swift, Accuracy & Life-Saving Outcomes

The Interventional Cardiology team at Kauvery is setting new benchmarks in emergency and high-risk cardiac care. From treating patients during heart attacks to managing complex multi-vessel blockages and valve replacements, the Internationally renowned team consistently delivers outcomes that meet or exceed global standards.

Kauvery recently recorded a **14-minute door-to-balloon time** - one of the fastest emergency angioplasty responses in the city. Whether it's high-risk angioplasties or treating completely blocked arteries (CTOs and bifurcation lesions), procedures are supported by real-time imaging (IVUS/OCT), advanced hemodynamic monitoring, and 24/7 cath lab readiness.

Cardiac Surgery: Robotics & Minimally Invasive Innovation

Kauvery's Cardiac Surgery department specializes in high-complexity procedures such as redo bypass surgeries, valve repairs, and aortic aneurysm corrections, using **robotic-assisted and minimally invasive techniques**. These advanced approaches allow patients to recover faster, avoid large incisions, and experience over **85% fewer post-operative complications** compared to traditional open-chest surgery. The hospital is also **transplant-ready** at its Electronic City unit, offering **LVAD implantation, ECMO** and **long-term heart failure management**, positioning Kauvery among the few centres in Karnataka equipped to treat end-stage cardiac conditions.

India's First AI-Integrated Heart Failure & Cardiac Rehab Centre

Kauvery proudly hosts India's first AI-powered Advanced Heart Failure & Cardiac Rehabilitation Centre. This pioneering program uses wearable monitoring devices, AI-powered risk alerts and structured home-based recovery plans to help patients stay ahead of complications, avoid readmissions and regain quality of life post-discharge.

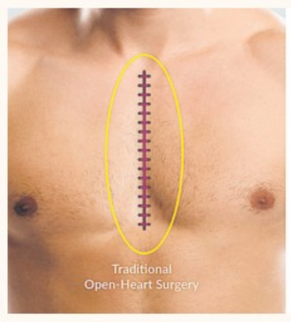
Led by a team of renowned interventional cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, electrophysiologists, lifestyle disease experts, and rehab specialists, the centre has delivered exceptional results:

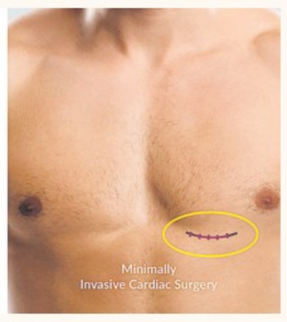
- **96% success rate** in blood pressure control, physical activity, and smoking cessation
- **70% reduction** in hospital readmissions
- **10x improvement** in daily endurance and mobility

A Cardiac Leader for Karnataka and Beyond

With award-winning outcomes, unique blend of technology, and a growing reputation across India, Kauvery Hospitals, Bangalore is not just participating in Karnataka's cardiac care evolution, it's leading it. Its annual **Kauvery Heart Summit,** which brings together global cardiac leaders, reinforces the hospital's role as a thought leader in heart care innovation.

For enquiries or appointments, call:
Kauvery Hospitals,
Electronic City: 080 6801 6801 |
Marathahalli: 080 4180 4180
www.kauveryhospitalsbangalore.com





VRIKSH FERTILITY
Hope • Life • Happiness

Follow us on:

Turn Tears into Tiny Toes

IVF at Just ₹79,999/-

Celebrate World IVF Day With A Package Filled With Hope

GET FREE

- Consultation
- Pelvic Scan
- Semen Analysis

Package Includes

IVF/ICSI
Ovum Pick-Up
Fresh Embryo Transfer

For Appointments

Call: +91-8797 080808

Vriksh Fertility
H.S.R Layout | Whitefield

#HighSuccessRate

*Limited Time Period Offer

*Terms & Conditions Apply

Services:
• IUI • IVF • Egg Vitrification • FET / Blastcyst Transfer • Embryo Freezing • Surrogacy • TESA • PESA • Micro TESE • Andrology Services • Psychological Counselling • Donor & Surrogacy Program • Acupuncture • Fertility Yoga • Diet Counselling.

A BG-BGE

Private medical colleges increase fees for management, NRI quota seats

The hike ranges from ₹1 lakh to ₹6 lakh. Despite the State government order that the annual fee for management and NRI quota seats cannot exceed ₹45 lakh, many private medical colleges have crossed the limit

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

Private medical colleges in the State have increased the annual fees for management and Non-Resident Indian (NRI) quota seats in the range of ₹1 lakh to ₹6 lakh for this year compared to previous year.

Despite the State government order that the annual fee for management and NRI quota seats cannot exceed ₹45 lakh, many private medical colleges have crossed the limit.

Of the available medical seats in the State, 40% are filled under government quota, 40% under private quota, 15% under NRI quota, and 5% under management quota. The fees for management and NRI quota seats are uniform in all private colleges.

This time, the State government has not allowed private colleges to increase the fee for government and private quota seats. But private colleges have increased the fees for management quota and NRI quota seats.

This time, the State government has not allowed private colleges to increase the fee for government and private quota seats. FILE PHOTO

PES University Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Bengaluru, has increased the fees for management and NRI quota seats by ₹5,99,250 this year. Last year, the fee for these seats in this college was ₹33,15,750, which, in effect, has been increased to ₹39,15,000 this year.

Sri Madhusudan Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Chickballapur, has increased the fees from ₹40,00,750 to ₹45 lakh. SDM College of Medical Sciences and Hospital, Dharwad, has increased the fees from ₹30,15,750 to ₹35,15,000. Sridevi Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Hospital, Tumakuru, has raised its fees from ₹33,12,700 to ₹38,61,950. The fees of BGS Medical College and Hospital has gone up from ₹32,15,750 to ₹35,15,000.

On the other hand, many minority medical colleges have drastically reduced the annual fees for management and NRI quota seats.

Akash Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre, Bengaluru, has reduced the fee by about ₹4 lakh. Last year, the fee for these seats in this college was ₹40,12,700. The annual fee of Al-Amin Medical College in Vijayapura has been reduced from ₹30,12,700 to ₹27,11,950 this year.

On the other hand, Sapthagiri Institute of Medical Sciences in Bengaluru charges ₹45,40,750, while M.S. Ramaiah Medical College charges ₹45,15,000 fee, higher than the limit set by the government.

The fee for medical seats in government colleges is ₹64,350, while it is ₹1,53,571 for government quota seats in private medical colleges.

The fee for government quota seats in deemed universities has been fixed in the range of ₹1,56,621 to ₹1,82,371. But a fee of ₹6,09,084 has been fixed for government quota seats in Jagadguru Gangadhara Mahaswamygalu Moorusaviramath Medical College in Dharwad.

The fee for private quota seats in private colleges is ₹12,00,117, and the fee for private quota seats in deemed universities ranges from ₹16,29,965 to ₹25,15,000.

"As per the memorandum of understanding with the government, private medical colleges have not increased the fee for government and private quota medical seats this year. However, as per the rules, the government cannot fix the fee for management and NRI quota seats. Hence, the fees for these seats has been increased," said a member of the management of a private medical college in Bengaluru.

BU for restricting entry of public vehicles on Jnana Bharathi campus

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Owing to the increasing traffic congestion inside the Jnana Bharathi campus that has led to noise pollution and a rise in number of accidents, the Syndicate of Bangalore University has decided to write to the State government and Police Department requesting restrictions on the movement of public vehicles within its campus.

More than 25,000 vehicles pass through the campus daily, causing serious disturbances to academic activities and leading to multiple accidents.

After discussions, the Syndicate decided to request the government to restrict public vehicles on the road connecting Nagarabhavi to the university campus for the safety of students and the smooth functioning of academic work.

More than 25,000 vehicles pass through the campus daily, causing serious disturbances to academic activities and leading to multiple accidents. K. MURALI KUMAR

Private programmes

The Syndicate decided that any individual or organisation wishing to plant trees on the Jnana Bharathi campus must obtain prior permission.

Moreover, it has directed that no private programmes or activities should be conducted by any associations, including the 'Jnana Bharathi Walkers' Association, without approval.

If any unauthorised event is organised within the campus, the university will file a complaint with the police and initiate appropriate legal action, officials said.

'Kundapra Kannada' festival to be held in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The 'Kundapra Kannada Festival-2025' organised by the 'Kundapra Kannada Foundation' will be held on July 26 and 27 at the Nandi Link Ground near the NICE Road Junction at Hosakerehalli, Bengaluru, said Deepak Shetty Barkur, President of the Foundation.

Speaking at a press conference on Thursday, he said that the festival will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at 5 p.m. on Saturday. Speaker U.T. Khader, Bamul president D.K. Suresh and former Member of Parliament K. Jayaprakash Hegde and others will jointly dedicate the Kundapra Kannada Peeth at Mangalore university.

H. Sudarshan Ballal, president of Manipal Group of Hospitals and film director Yogaraj Bhat will be facilitated with 'Ura Gaurava' award. Film actor Rishab Shetty, Pramod Shetty, and others will participate in the festival.

Govt. notifies reduction of SSLC pass percentage from 35 to 33

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government on Thursday issued a gazette notification reducing the pass percentage for SSLC exam from 35 to 33.

As per the new rules, candidates who secure an average of 33% marks in internal assessment and external examination combined will be declared pass. They should secure at least 206 marks out of a total of 625, including at least 30% marks in each subject out of the total marks of the respective subject.

15 days to file objections

The government has given 15 days for the public to file objections to the new rules. The State government has amended the Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board Act, 1966, to allow for this reduction.

Set up waste-to-energy plant at Kannahalli, says BBMP chief

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao on Thursday directed Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) officials to formulate a comprehensive plan to establish a waste-to-energy unit at the Kannahalli waste processing plant.

Mr. Rao directed the officials to formulate a plan after discussing its challenges and shortcomings with the private company Sataram, which is currently operating the processing plant.

Every day, 350 tonnes of waste are being processed in the Kannahalli plant, according to the BBMP.

The BBMP chief also visited the Seegehalli processing unit and demanded efficient processing of the waste load at the plant, which has a capacity of processing 120 tonnes of waste per day. In a release, BBMP said that the facility also has around five lakh tonnes of legacy waste, which Mr. Rao directed should be reprocessed using a trommel machine.

He further ordered that refuse-derived fuel (RDF) waste be sent to the power generation unit in Bidadi and inert waste be transported to a designated landfill.

Repairs

After that, Mr. Rao visited the Subbarayanapalya Waste Treatment Plant and directed officials to take up necessary repairs at the plant and complete them without delay so that it operates at its full capacity of processing 150 tonnes per day.

In addition to waste management, Mr. Rao addressed the issue of flooding in Nagarabhavi's Teachers' Colony, which has been a recurring problem during the monsoon.

Sayonara

Workers at the Bannerughatta Biological Park in Bengaluru trying to shift an elephant into a carriage to be sent to the Himeji Central Park in Japan. The second batch of four elephants will be transported through a cargo plane from Bengaluru to Osaka. Veterinary doctors and keepers will accompany the elephants and be with them for two weeks to help them adapt to the new environment. K. MURALI KUMAR

Bengaluru hosts leaders' meet for a sustainable future

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A diverse mix of investors, corporates, sustainability-focused CSR and ESG leads, social entrepreneurs and ecosystem enablers came together at a gathering held in Bengaluru hosted by AndPurpose to address the challenges from climate adaptation and water scarcity to financing the green transition and scaling social innovation.

The forum featured panels, fireside chats, and showcases on unlocking capital for systemic change, sustainable urban infrastructure designs and using deeptech and AI for innovation.

Price capped for influenza panel and COVID tests

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Following complaints of private laboratories and hospitals charging exorbitantly for influenza panel and COVID tests, the State Health Department has capped the price for these tests at ₹1,700. A government order to this effect was issued on Thursday.

This fixed rate will apply to tests to detect all viral infections, including COVID-19, carried out by private medical institutions, hospitals, and laboratories in the State. "This is an all-time price cap and not just during an outbreak or surge," said Harsh Gupta, principal secretary, Health and Family Welfare.

If any laboratory or hospital charges more than the fixed rate, action will be taken under the Karnataka Private Medical Establishments Act. Medical institutions have to mandatorily record SARI and ILI cases under the IHIP, he said.

Study reveals coral cover in Lakshadweep has seen 50% reduction

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Concerning revelations have emerged from one of the longest-running coral reef monitoring programmes in the Indian Ocean. The 24-year-long study shows that corals in the Lakshadweep archipelago have declined to half of what they were in 1998 as a result of repeated marine heatwaves, exacerbated by climate change.

However, local conditions, such as wave exposure and depth, play essential roles in shaping how reefs respond to and recover from these events.

The study, 'Local Environmental Filtering and Frequency of Marine Heatwaves Influence Decadal Trends in Coral Composition', published in the journal *Diversity and Distributions*, uses long-term data sets to propose a predictive framework, which could help identify vulnerable reefs, and reefs that may still have the potential to recover.

A 24-year-long study shows that corals in the Lakshadweep archipelago have declined as a result of repeated marine heatwaves, exacerbated by climate change. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Since 1998, researchers from the Nature Conservation Foundation have been tracking reef condition at three atolls across the Lakshadweep archipelago – Agatti, Kadmat and Kavaratti – to understand how reefs respond to climate change.

This monitoring programme has monitored reefs as they declined and recovered from three major El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) events – in 1998, 2010 and 2016.

The data was analysed to explore if changes in the composition of coral could be explained by the number of heatwaves experienced and by more local factors, such as seasonally strong wave action and depth at which corals are found.

"Over 24 years, coral cover declined from 37.24% to 19.6%, reflecting a roughly 50% reduction from the 1998 baseline. This decline was explained by reduced recovery rates after each bleaching event, despite coral mortality decreasing with successive events. Recovery rates dramatically increased after six years, suggesting a critical period of bleaching-free years needed for reefs to recover. We observed contrasting responses of coral genera, which clustered in six groups representing distinct assemblage-wide patterns in distribution (depth and wave exposure) and bleaching responses," the researchers stated.

Species are expected to respond to disturbances according to their biological characteristics (life history traits), and the researchers expected that the corals in Lakshadweep reefs will closely track their biology, as has been suggested by other studies, resulting in a clear set of winners and losers on the reef.

"Over the 24 years of change, we identified not just two group of winners or losers, but six distinct kinds of responses (or clusters), based on how corals were affected by heatwaves, their recovery time, the depth at which they were found, and whether they grew on exposed or sheltered reefs. Importantly, these clusters are a useful predictive framework, which we can use to map other reefs across the archipelago and possibly beyond, to determine their susceptibility to climate change," they stated.

Time is of essence

The researchers warn that no amount of local resilience and restoration efforts, especially in regions that do not support corals that make up a resilient cluster, can substitute urgent global climate action:

"The one thing reefs need to recover is time. Without a pause in the frequency of marine heatwaves, whatever resilience tropical reefs have is likely to be short lived. Our results show that less corals die simply because less is available to die in later years. In the long run, we must call the crisis by its name and acknowledge that the integrity of tropical reefs, like the rest of global biodiversity, cannot sustain the seemingly impervious logic of the prevailing economic order."

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, JUL. 25	
RISE 06:04	SET 18:49
RISE 06:21	SET 19:29
SATURDAY, JUL. 26	
RISE 06:04	SET 18:48
RISE 07:19	SET 20:13
SUNDAY, JUL. 27	
RISE 06:04	SET 18:48
RISE 08:11	SET 20:52

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	29	23
Mysuru	28	20
Bengaluru	26	20

Bengaluru Today
27°C The weather will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Spell of light rain and thundershower will occur.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2025
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT. LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

Dermatologists urge regulations against unauthorised transplants

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka branch of the Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venereologists and Leprologists (IADVL KN) on Thursday appealed to Medical Education Minister Sharan Prakash Patil to introduce urgent regulations curbing the unauthorised conduct of aesthetic dermatology and hair transplant procedures.

The association raised concerns over a 2022 public notice issued by the Dental Council of India (DCI), which is allegedly being misinterpreted by some dental professionals – including BDS graduates and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons – as permission to perform invasive skin-related treatments. These include Platelet-Rich Plasma therapy, hair transplantation, Botulinum toxin and filler injections, among others, despite their lack of formal training in dermatology or surgery.

This practice contradicts the National Medical Commission circular dated September 20, 2022, which clearly states that only Registered Medical Practitioners with structured postgraduate qualifications in dermatology or plastic surgery are authorised to carry out such procedures, said Girish M.S., Senior Specialist and Head of Department of Dermatology at ESIC Medical College and Model Hospital in Rajajinagar, who was part of the delegation. As a result, a surge in unregulated "Dental, Skin and Hair" clinics has been observed across Karnataka, with over 1,000 unqualified individuals reportedly operating illegally, said Venkataram Mysore, who heads the KPME and Practice Management Cell in IADVL in the State.

The association cited at least five deaths and numerous cases of disfigurement and psychological trauma nationwide.

Heavy rains lash coastal districts

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

Heavy rains were reported in Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, and Uttara Kananda since Tuesday. On Wednesday, schools and colleges were closed in Mangaluru, Mulky, Moodbidri, Bantwal, Ullal, and Kadaba taluks of Dakshina Kannada.

बी ई एम एल BEML बी ई एम एल BEML LIMITED
(CIN: L35202KA1964GOI001530)
(A Govt. of India Mini Ratna Company under Ministry of Defence)
BANGALORE COMPLEX, POST BOX: 7501,
NEW THIPPASANDRA POST, BANGALORE-560075

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e tender through BEML SRM Portal

BEML LIMITED, BANGALORE COMPLEX invites Public Tender-E mode (TWO Bid System)
Civil works tender ref: **6300039777**
Work Description : Design & Construction of Pre-Engineered Hangar for storage of materials of High Speed Trains and future Metro items to carry a load of 10 Ton overhead crane capacity at a given point, area adjacent to Cylinder stores in BEML Limited, Bangalore complex, Bangalore-75
Approx. estimated value : Rs. 9,35,00,000 /- inclusive of GST
EMD amount : Rs. 28,05,000/-
Period of contract: 08 Months
Last date & time for submission of bids : 18.08.2025 at 15.00 Hrs
Further details of tender can be obtained from following website:
https://bemlepci.bemlindia.in:50001/irj/portal & https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app
Bidders are advised to visit above websites frequently for any corrigendum, extension, etc.
The management has the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereon.
Sd/- Deputy General Manager

State-run Kidwai institute gets new administrator

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has appointed Avinash Menon Rajendran, State Mission Director of the National Health Mission as the administrator of Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology.

Govt. order

According to a government order issued in this regard, Mr. Rajendran has been given concurrent charge of Kidwai administrator with immediate effect till further orders. Mr. Rajendran is replacing Naveen Bhat Y., who was transferred and posted as the Deputy Commissioner of Chikkaballapur recently.

On the occasion of Varamahalakshmi Presenting
New Crafts Silk India® సిల్క్ ఇండియా 2025
3 Days Only
Visit Today
Pure Silk Products directly Purchase by Weavers from Across India
SINDHOOR CONVENTION CENTER
15th Cross, Sarakki, 1st Phase, J.P. Nagar Ring Road, Bengaluru
From : 16th to 27th July. 2025
Products on Display - Orissa : Sambhalpuri Ikkat Silk Saree, Bihar : Oragnic Tassar Silk Sarees, Suit & Stoles, Assam : Muga & Eri Silk Sarees, Karnataka : Creap Silk, Georgette Silk, Arini Silk & Printed Sarees, Tamilnadu : Kanjeevaram Silk Sarees & Designer Fancy Sarees, Andra Pradesh : Dharmavara, Uppada, Gadwal, Mangalagiri & Pochampalli Sarees, Uttar Pradesh : Mulbari Silk, Jamdani, Jamawar Silk Sarees & Chiffon Silk, Maharashtra : Designer Dress materials, Chhattisgarh : Exclusive Raw Silk Sarees, Kosa Silk, Tassar Suit & Duppatta, Madhya Pradesh : Maheswari, Chanderi Silk Sarees & Suit, West Bengal : Baluchari, Dhaka Masli, Gicha Sarees, Boutique Sarees, Kantha Sarees, Zordoshi, Jammu & Kashmir : Chinon Silk, Tady Silk Printed Sarees, Pashmina Shawls & Suit, Rajasthan : Kota Silk, Hand Block Print Dress & Sarees, Punjab : Fulkari Dress and many more...
All Credit & Debit Cards Accepted Call: 08850902824
Time : 10.30 am - 8.30 pm
Entry & Parking Free
Org. by : O.A & C.

SILK MARK
Kanchipuram
Salammal Silks
No.319, Gandhi Road , Near Theradi, Kanchipuram
Pure Zari Kanjivaram with TN Govt Zari test certificate
Varalakshmi Festive Saree Expo
Direct from Weavers
July 2025
24th 6pm – 9:00 pm
25,26 & 27 10am – 9:00 pm
Venue :
White Housse, HSR Layout, Bengaluru
Flat 10% Off
On all products
Up to 30% Off
On selected products
+91 7449 7449 89
Sarees From
₹ 399/- to ₹ 4,00,000 /-
Over 20,000 Sarees & festive collections
* Pure Kanjivaram silk * Semi Kanchi Silk * Soft Silk * Silk Cotton
* Cotton varieties * Fancy Sarees * 9/10 Yards Sarees * Pattu Pavada & Dhoties

BIGGEST SHOPPING FESTIVAL
THAILAND INTERNATIONAL SHOPPING FESTIVAL
LOCATE US
24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 JULY 2025
10.00 AM TO 8.30 PM
TRIPURA VASINI PALACE GROUNDS
NEAR MEKHRI CIRCLE, BENGALURU
THAILAND
DUBAI
AFGHANISTAN
IRAN
☑ Thailand Flowers ☑ Thailand Kids Accessories ☑ Thailand Cosmetics ☑ Thailand Pearl Jewellery ☑ Thai Boxing Accessories
☑ Iran Jewellery & Chocolates ☑ Uganda Artifacts ☑ Afghanistan Dry Fruits ☑ Korea Pearl Jewellery ☑ Malaysia Outdoor Furniture
☑ Thai Oils & Balms ☑ Thailand Women Clothing ☑ Thai Umbrellas ☑ Thailand Ladies Hand Bags ☑ Thailand Silk Shawls
☑ Thailand Home Decor Products ☑ Korea Women Accessories ☑ Dubai Perfumes ☑ Dubai Chocolates & Baklava ☑ Much More....
www.iadsandevents.com exhibitions_iadsnevents iadsnevents ENTRY BY REGISTRATION ₹50 +91 93425779086
AN EVENT BY iads & events COMPLETE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

800 PLUS UNIQUE DESIGNS & MORE STYLES !
TIMING 10.00 AM TO 8.30 PM
FURNITURE & HOME INTERIOR EXPO
LOCATE US
24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 JULY 2025
TRIPURA VASINI PALACE GROUNDS
NEAR MEKHRI CIRCLE, BENGALURU
• LIVING ROOM SET • DINING SET • BEDROOM SET • HOME DECOR • BRASS & ARTIFACTS • OUTDOOR FURNITURE
• RECLINER SOFA SETS • CARPET & CUSHIONS • MASSAGE CHAIR • CURTAINS • WATER FOUNTAINS & MUCH MORE...
www.iadsandevents.com exhibitions_iadsnevents iadsnevents ENTRY BY REGISTRATION ₹50 +91 93425779086
AN EVENT BY iads & events COMPLETE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

KSRTC launches weekend temple tour package in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC), Bengaluru Central Division, has announced a new weekend temple tour package – 'Bengaluru-Shivagange-Siddaganga Mutt-Devarayanadurga-Goravanahalli-Vidhurashwatha-Ghati Subramanya,' starting Saturday.

The one-day pilgrimage circuit, covering 277 km, will be operated on Saturdays and Sundays, using KSRTC's Ashwamedha Classic buses.

The tour includes visits to prominent temples such as the Sri Gangadhareshwara and Honnamma Devi temples at Shivagange, Sri Siddaganga Mutt, Bhoga Narasimha temple at Devarayanadurga, Sri Mahalakshmi temple at Goravanahalli, Ashwatha Narayanaswamy temple at Vidhurashwatha, and ends at the famous Ghati Subramanya temple. The tour begins at 6.30 a.m. from Bengaluru, and concludes by 8.00 p.m. on the same day.

Fare

The fare is fixed at ₹650 for adults, and ₹500 for children aged 6 to 12. The package excludes entrance fees, breakfast, lunch, and dinner. KSRTC has urged devotees and tourists to take advantage of the spiritual weekend getaway and book tickets through its official websites *www.ksrtc.in* or *www.ksrtc.karnataka-.gov.in*.

Space leadership meet to be held in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karman Week 2025, an annual gathering of 15 high-impact global leaders in space, including astronauts, agency heads, and industry executives, will be held in the city in October.

The Karman Week 2025 is a flagship event of the Karman Project, a global foundation advancing peace and cooperation in space. This year's selected delegation includes representatives from Axiom Space, Airbus, the Saudi Space Agency, the UK Space Agency, and the Kenya Space Agency.

The event will be hosted by SatSure. The program will include direct engagements with the Indian space sector, alongside curated cultural activities.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that Mr.Pradeep Kumar being the absolute owner of Residential Apartment bearing **No.2A-504,** with a super built-up area of 1385 Square Feet, on the Fifth Floor, together with right to use Single Car Park space in the Basement together with all common areas attributed thereto in the Multistoried Residential Apartment Building known as **'AKME ENCORE'** in the land bearing Sy.No.19/1, 134/2(P), 16/2(P) carved out of the larger property being converted residential lands bearing Sy.No.16/2, 19/1 and 134/2, situated at Kundalahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East (previously South) Taluk, Bangalore affirms that the **Original Absolute Sale Deed dated 04.10.2012**, executed by Mrs.Susheelamma and M/s.Akme Projects Ltd. in favour of Mr.Pradeep Kumar, son of Mr.Birendra Prasad, registered as Document No.INR-1-03341/2012-13 stored in CD No.INRD45 of Book-I, before the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Indiranagar, Bangalore has been lost/misplaced and has not been mortgaged /pledged as collateral security and is not in a position to trace the said original document and had also lodged a Complaint on 10.08.2022, bearing GSC No. PO1405221200002, before the K.R. Puram Police Station, Bangalore City Police about the aforesaid loss.

Any person/s in possession of the aforesaid document may return the same to us or anyone having any sort of claim over the said Property may lodge their objections in writing within **07 days** from this day to the undersigned.

K. V. Narendra & Associates,
Advocates and Legal Consultants,
No.557, 2nd Floor, 9th A Main,
Indiranagar, Bangalore - 560038.
Ph: 9591067392.

जल संसाधन विभाग
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
सिंचाई प्रमंडल, वीरपुर (सुपौल)।

बिहार सरकार

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं0 –01SBD/2025-26 का शुद्धि पत्र

शुद्धि पत्र–02

सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि इस कार्यालय का पत्रांक–739 दिनांक–02.07.2025द्वारा आमंत्रित निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं0 –01SBD/2025-26 जिसका सूचना एवं जनसंपर्क विभाग का PR No.-007679(WRD) 2025-26 है, जो दैनिक समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित हुआ है जो अपरिहार्यकारणवश निम्न प्रकार से संशोधित किया जाता है :–

क्रमांक	विवरण	पूर्व में निर्धारित	संशोधित	अभियुक्ति
1	कार्य का नाम	कोशी–मेची अन्तःराज्यीय लिंक परियोजना के पूर्वी कोशी मुख्य नहर के (कि0मी0–0.00 से कि0मी0–44.10) टर्न–की के आधार पर।	कोशी–मेची अन्तःराज्यीय लिंक परियोजना के अन्तर्गत टर्न–की आधार पर पूर्वी कोशी मुख्य नहर के कि0मी0– 0.00 से कि0मी0–41.30 तक रिमॉडलिंग कार्य। "Remodelling Work of Eastern Kosi Main Canal from Km 0.00 to 41.30 Km on Turnkey Basis under Kosi -Machi Intrastate Link Project."	

PR- 009415 (W R D) 2025-26

कार्यपालक अभियंता
सिंचाई प्रमंडल, वीरपुर (सुपौल)।

नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Office of the Deputy General Manager-1,BSWML, 1st Floor,
BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 052

No:DGM-1/BSWML/TEND/07/2025-26 **Date: 24.07.2025**

INVITATION FOR TENDER NOTIFICATION (IFT)
(Only through GOK KPP Portal Only)

The Deputy General Manager-1, Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited on behalf of the Managing Director, BSWML, Bengaluru invites bids from eligible bidders for the works mention in the below table.

Sl No.	Package Name	Approx. Amount Put to Bid (Rs.in Crores)	EMD Amount (in Rs)	Stipulated Period of Completion (including Monsoon Period)
1	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Material Recovery Facility having sorting, shredding, baling & storage system for handling a minimum 200 TPD of Dry Waste at **Doddabidarakallu** Plant under BBMP jurisdiction. **(Package -P1)** on own design build & transfer basis.(DBT)	28.39 (Including GST)	28,39,000/-	12 Months
2	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Material Recovery Facility having sorting, shredding, baling & storage system for handling a minimum 200 TPD of Dry Waste at **Subbarayanapalya** Plant under BBMP jurisdiction. **(Package -P2)** on own design build & transfer basis.(DBT)	20.69 (Including GST)	20,69,000/-	12 Months
3	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Material Recovery Facility having sorting shredding, baling & storage system for handling a minimum 826 TPD of Dry Waste at **Tarahunase** under BBMP jurisdiction **(Package -P3)** on own design build & transfer basis. (DBT)	76.44 (Including GST)	76,44,000/-	12 Months

CALENDER OF EVENTS: 1) Last date to upload pre-bid queries in kpp portal: 04.08.2025 before 4:00 pm. 2) Tender Pre Bid meeting: 05.08.2025 at 3:00 pm at above mentioned office. 3) Last Date of Receipt of Tender 28.08.2025 before 4:00 pm. 4) Opening of Technical Bid: 29.08.2025 after 4:30 pm.

For more details please visit KPP Portal http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/CP/2025/CCL/2025-26

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-1,
BSWML, Bengaluru

Canara Bank
A Government of India Undertaking

ARM– II Branch, 2nd Floor, Circle Office, Spencer Towers, No.86, M G Road, Bengaluru-560001.
Telephone numbers 080-25310099, 080-25310181, E-mail: cb6298@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
(Under Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described Immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-2 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 14.08.2025, 01:00 pm to 03.00 pm . [with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each till the conclusion of sale],** through E-Auction under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **13.08.2025.**

Sl. No.	Borrower and Guarantor Name/ Description of the movable / immovable assets:	Total Liabilities as per Sale Notice	Description of the immovable assets:	Reserve Price & EMD
1	**(1) Sri. Sayed Ibrahim Farhan,** S/o Sayed Hussain Barmavar, No. 15, Ground Floor, 3rd Cross, Kanakanagar RT Nagar, Bengaluru 560032 **(2) Also at: Sri. Sayed Ibrahim Farhan,** No.64, Jamia Street, Bhatkal, Karnataka 581320. **(3) Smt.Jumana** W/o Sayed Ibrahim Farhan No. 15, Ground Floor, 3rd Cross, Kanakanagar, RT Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560032 **(4) Also at: Smt.Jumana Haneefabad** 1st Cross, Bhatkal Karnataka 581320	**Rs. 2,39,47,973.69 (Rupees Two Crore Thirty Nine Lakhs Forty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Three and Sixty Nine Paisa only) as on 23.07.2025 plus further interest thereon and other expenses**	**1 Property No.1 (Villa):** All the piece and parcel of the immovable portion of property bearing Villa No.46, E Khatha No.150200102300122861-1500/46 in gated layout MANAR PURE EARTH, carved out of Sy No.7/1, Sarjapura Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore. Total extent of plot 108 Sq Mts and Bounded on: East by: Site No.69, West by: Road, North by: Site No.47, South by: Site No.45.	**Rs. 51.50 Lakhs EMD: Rs.5,15.000/-**
			Property No.2(Flat): All that piece and parcel of the immovable portion of property bearing Flat No FF-3, Fourth Floor, B Block, "S2 Water Homes The Water Grove", Ananthnanagar to Kammasandra Road, Kammasandra Post, Phase 1, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore, measuring 2171 Sqft and bounded on: East by: Flat No .FF 4, West by: Flat No.FF 2, North by: Open Space, South by: Corridor.	**Rs. 79.94 Lakhs EMD: Rs.7,99,400/-**

OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS : (a) Auction / bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website **https://baanknet.in/** Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings. **(b)** The property can be inspected, with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer **(c)** The property will be sold for the price which is more than the Reserve Price and the participating bidders may improve their offer further during auction process. **(d)** EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited in E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (Baanknet) portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan. **(e)** After payment of the EMD amount, the intending bidders should submit a copy of the following documents/details on or before **13.08.2025,** to Canara Bank, ARM Branch II Bangalore by hand OR Email. (i) Demand Draft/Pay order towards EMD amount. If paid through RTGS/NEFT Acknowledgement receipt thereof with UTR No. (ii.) Photocopies of PAN Card, ID Proof and Address proof. However, successful bidder would have to produce these documents in original to the Bank at the time of making payment of balance amount of 25% of bid amount.(iii) Bid Form. The intending bidders should register their names at portal **https://baanknet.in/and** get their User ID and password free of cost. Prospective bidder may avail online training on E- auction from the service provider, **M/s.PSB Alliance (Baanknet) - e- mail: support.baanknet@psballiance.com.** EMD deposited by the unsuccessful bidder shall be refunded to them. The EMD shall not carry any interest. **(f)** Auction would commence at Reserve Price, as mentioned above. Bidders shall improve their offers in multiplies of **Rs.50,000/-.** The bidder who submits the highest bid (not below the Reserve price) on closure of 'Online' auction shall be declared as successful bidder. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor. **(g)**The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on declaring him/her as the successful bidder and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. If the successful bidder fails to pay the sale price, the deposit made by him shall be forfeited by the Authorized Officer without any notice and property shall forthwith be put up for sale again. This amount shall be deposited by way of Demand draft in favour of Authorized Officer, Canara Bank, ARM II Branch OR shall be deposited through RTGS / NEFT / Fund Transfer to credit of account of Canara Bank, ARM II Branch, A/c. No. 209272434, IFSC Code: CNRB0006298. **(h)** For sale proceeds of **Rs.50.00 Lakhs** (Rupees Fifty lacs) and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct TDS at a rate 1% or as applicable on the sale proceeds and submit the original receipt of TDS certificate to the bank. **(i)** All charges for Conveyance, Stamp Duty/GST/Registration Charges etc. As applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder only. **(j)** Authorised Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the E-auction without assigning any reason thereof. **(k)** In case there are bidders who do not have access to the internet but interested in participating the E-auction, they can approach Canara Bank Circle office, Bengaluru or Canara Bank ARM II Branch, Bengaluru, who as a facilitating centre shall make necessary arrangements. **(l)** Bidder has to make due diligence and physical verification of property with regard to title, extent, area dues, etc. No claim subsequent to submission of bid shall be entertained by the bank.

For further details contact Authorized Officer, Chief Manager, Canara Bank, ARM Branch-2- (9113092975, 8921102717, 9201460154, 9483544116, 8709675503 and 080-25310181) e-mail id cb6298@canarabank.com OR the service provider M/s.PSB Alliance (Baanknet) e-mail: support.BAANKNET@psballiance.com

SPECIAL INSTRUCTION / CAUTION

Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither Canara Bank nor the Service Provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet failure, Power failure, etc.) on the part of the bidder or vendor in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements/alternatives such as back –up, power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully.

Date : 24.07.2025
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised officer
Canara Bank

ICTS अंतरराष्ट्रीय सैद्धांतिक विज्ञान केंद्र
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THEORETICAL SCIENCES **tifr**
टाटा मूलभूत अनुसंधान संस्थान
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
An Autonomous Institute of the Department of Atomic Energy of Government of India and a Deemed to be University
No 151, Shivakote, Hessarghatta Hobli, Bengaluru (North)-560089, India, Tel : +91-80-46536000

WALK IN RECRUITMENT NOTICE

Advertisement No: ICTS-Notice-2025/03 **Date: 25 July 2025**

The Centre is looking for highly motivated and self-driven individuals for an appointment for the post of **Library Trainee** at its Bengaluru Campus.
No. of posts - 01
Upper Age limit - 28 Years (as on 01 July 2025)
Consolidated Pay - Rs 22000/- per month.
The candidates should report for the selection process on **Friday, 01 August 2025, at 10:00 am.** For more information, please visit the website **www.icts.res.in.**

स्थापना अनुभाग/ **Establishment Section**

BRUHAT BANGALORE MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Chief Commissioner, Annex Building-1,
BBMP Head office, NR Square, Bengaluru-560002.

No: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/1059/2025-26 **FORM-I** **Dated:24.07.2025**

NOTIFICATION {Under Sec 14B(4)(i)}

In exercise of powers conferred under section 14-B (4) of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act 1961 the following 'Area' mentioned in the schedule below is required by The CHIEF COMMISSIONER, BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE for **Construction of Underground 3 Lane Twin Road from Hebbala Flyover to Hebbala Veterinary College on Bellary Road (Ch:0.00m to 200.00m).** It is hereby informed to the land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose, to appear and submit their claims along with the copies of the relevant documents viz, (i) Sale /Partition / other deeds of title, (ii) Up-to-date RTC's (iii) Mutation Copy (iv) Tax paid receipts (V) conversion order of Non agriculture purpose (vi) Revenue sketch (vii) Akar band etc., in person in the place within thirty days from the date of publication of this notification as indicated in the address below and state their respective interest in such land.

The place where land owners / interested persons have to appear and submit their claims	Name and address of the Divisional / Sub divisional / branch offices	Date and Time
The Deputy Commissioner(LAQ & TDR) Room No: 208, 2st Floor, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, Bangalore-560002.	Executive Engineer Road Infrastructure Yelahanka Division, BBMP	30 days from the date of Notification. Time : 10.00 A.M to 5.00 P.M

The land owners / interested parties of the scheduled properties whose lands are to be acquired shall give the consent for Grant of Development Rights to the Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike.

The land owners shall receive twice the area of land surrendered in lieu of monetary compensation as DR (Notional land) and two time the building area surrendered as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered divided by the Market value of the land on which the building is constructed. The Notional land can be utilized by factorizing with the market value at the originating plot and receiving plot. The Notional land is eligible for FAR and can be used as additional built up area at the receiving plot as per the terms and conditions prescribed in the Benefit of Development Rights Rules, 2016.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Rights Certificates (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition Officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (LAQ & TDR), BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

SCHEDULE

"Acquisition of land required for **Construction of Underground 3 Lane Twin Road from Hebbala Flyover to Hebbala Veterinary College on Bellary Road (Ch:0.00m to 200.00m).**

Sl No	Name of the Village	Sy No/ Khatha No	Type of Land: Vacant	Type of Land: Built up	Nature of Land: Agriculture	Nature of Land: Converted Undeveloped	Nature of Land: Approved layout / developed land Building Site	Dimension of the land / plot and extent in sq.m: Dimension	Dimension of the land / plot and extent in sq.m: Extent	Boundaries of the land /plot: East	Boundaries of the land /plot: West	Boundaries of the land /plot: North	Boundaries of the land /plot: South	Building Details: Extent in Sqm	Building Details: Type of Construction and No. of Floors	Building Details: Floor area Ratio	Present activity on Land/Building (Specify Specific activity such as shop, office, factory, apartment individual house etc.,	Market (guidelines) value of the land per Sqm: Agriculture/B-Khatha	Market (guidelines) value of the land per Sqm: Converted Undeveloped	Market (guidelines) value of the land per Sqm: A Khatha, Developed Site	Name and address of the owner of the plot/land for which DRC is to be issued / already issued.
Name of the District: **Bengaluru Urban.** Name of the Taluk: **Yelahanka**																					
1	Hebbala	109/4	Vacant Land		-			286.18		Existing Road	Road as per Village map	Sy.no 109/3	Sy.no 110	-	-	-	-	35,880/-	47,740/-	68,200/-	Munivenkatappa, M.Ramaiah S/o Muniyappa & M.S Mahadevaiah S/o M.Shivanna
2	Hebbala	109/3	Vacant Land		-			354.81		Existing Road	Road as per Village map	Sy.no 109/2	Sy.no 109/4	-	-	-	-	35,880/-	47,740/-	68,200/-	Pillappa S/o Thammanna & K.I.A.D.B
3	Hebbala	109/2	Vacant Land		-			432.90		Existing Road	Road as per Village map	Sy.no 109/1	Sy.no 109/3	-	-	-	-	35,880/-	47,740/-	68,200/-	C.Muniyappa S/o Chikkapapaiah, K.I.A.D.B & National Highway, Muniyappa S/o Papanna
4	Hebbala	109/1	Vacant Land		-			596.48		Existing Road	Road as per Village map	Sy.no 108/2	Sy.no 109/2	-	-	-	-	35,880/-	47,740/-	68,200/-	K.I.A.D.B & Ramakrishnamurthy S/o Chikkamuninagappa, Chandrashekar.C S/o Chikkamuninagappa, C.Ashwath S/o Chikkamuninagappa, C.Venu S/o Chikkamuninagappa
5	Hebbala	108/2	Vacant Land		-			1381.39		Existing Road	Road as per Village map	Sy.no 108/1	Sy.no 109/1	-	-	-	-	35,880/-	47,740/-	68,200/-	S.B Ramachandrappa S/o Bairamma, Acquired Notification Highway & M.S Mahadevaiah S/o M.Shivanna
6	Hebbala	108/1	Vacant Land		-			3135.35		Existing Road	Road as per Village map	Sy.no 107/1	Sy.no 108/2	-	-	-	-	35,880/-	47,740/-	68,200/-	Marappa S/o Sonnappa, Lakshmamma S/o H.M Siddappa, P.Marappa S/o Late Chikkasiddappa alias Puttanna alias Puttappa, P.Muniraju S/o Late Chikkasiddappa alias Puttanna alias Puttappa, P.Sharadamma W/o Late K.Murthy and P.Manjula W/o K.Muniraju, Anjali alias Anjanamma W/o Anjanappa
7	Hebbala	107/2	Vacant Land		-			42.84		Existing Road	Road as per Village map	Sy.no 107/1	Sy.no 108/1	-	-	-	-	35,880/-	47,740/-	68,200/-	M.S Mahdevaiah S/o M.Shivanna
8	Hebbala	107/1	Vacant Land		-			1011.71		Sy.no 107/2	Road as per Village map	Road as per Village map	Sy.no 108/1	-	-	-	-	35,880/-	47,740/-	68,200/-	M.S Mahdevaiah S/o M.Shivanna & K.I.A.D.B
								Total extent in Sq.m	7241.66											

Note:

- **The Market value of Land shall be subject to land conversion and development status to be decided at Form-III stage based on production of documents from the Land Owners.**
- **The Building extent shall be verified at the time of Form-III Public Notice stage based on the Building Valuation and Benefits of Development Rights Rules, 2016.**

Sd/- Chief Commissioner
Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike

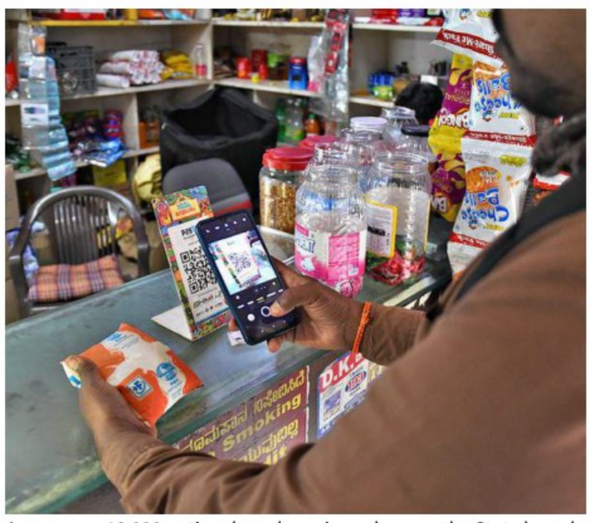
GST notices to traders: A fiasco that could have been avoided with proper planning

Before issuing notices to the traders, a spot visit to assess the nature of business should have been undertaken, say sources

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) notice fiasco in Karnataka, which ended with the intervention of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, could have been avoided with proper planning and feet on ground by Commercial Taxes officers, senior department officials feel.

Before issuing notices to traders, a spot visit to assess the nature of business should have been undertaken by the officials, multiple officials said.



As many as 18,000 notices have been issued across the State based on the information received by the Service Analysis Wing after it sought details from the UPI platforms. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

A senior official has said that when traders were issued notices, officials did not know the nature of businesses in many cases

Nature of business

"When traders were issued notices, officials did not know the nature of businesses in a large number of cases. They had not visited the business premises to conduct a survey. It was a thoughtless and faceless exercise, which embarrassed the government," a senior official explained. "There was a lack of clarity and specificity with respect to the nature of supply – whether it was goods or services."

Businesses with a turnover in trade of goods above ₹40 lakh and of services above ₹20 lakh have to be registered under the GST. As many as 18,000 notices have been issued across the State based on the information received by the Service Analysis Wing (SAW) after it sought details from UPI platforms. Officials said that while details were received from three platforms, transactions in many others had not been received, which meant the exercise was not comprehensive.

Goods not under GST

As a result, another official pointed out, notices ended up being issued to vendors selling milk, vegetables, flowers, meat, and fruits, all of which are exempted goods under the GST.

'Big tax demand'

"The notices scared the traders with a big tax demand and were issued on mere assumptions, without ascertaining the nature of receipts. Attempts were not made to ascertain whether receipts actually pertain to business transactions, or whether they were unrelated to business, or related to exempted goods."

The notices, if questioned in the High Court, could be struck down, sources said. Multiple officials with whom *The Hindu* spoke also referred to a very "high and unreasonable" target set by the State government for the GST collections, which prompted the department to look towards newer sources of revenue or widen the tax base.

By tapping the UPI net, the government was expecting at least ₹1,000 crore to ₹1,500 crore revenue, sources said.

While the department collected about ₹1.02 lakh crore during 2024-2025, the government has set a target of ₹1.2 lakh crore for 2025-2026.

'Based on GDP growth'

"Normally, the revision of the target is based on the GDP growth. Targets in the past were increased, which were double the rate of growth of the State's GDP. This time, the target has been raised by 17%, which we believe is very difficult to attain," another senior official said.

Concurring with his view, an officer said, "The last fiscal had ₹1.02 lakh crore, which included about ₹6,000 crore from the IGST input tax credit reversal, which had not been claimed at all. This will drop down to about ₹1,000 crore this year. If this is considered, the revenue target has been increased by over 20%."

SOP issued to handle UPI cases

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Commercial Taxes Department is learnt to have issued Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to officers to handle the UPI cases. The SOP is to handle both cases of those who have been issued notices and traders to whom the notices were to be issued.

While 65,000 traders have been identified to have exceeded the thresholds through their UPI transactions, notices have been issued to 18,000. It has instructions to officials on granting registrations.

Traders to be monitored

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced that retrospective tax liabilities will not be pursued against small traders who have received GST notices, the Commercial Taxes Department is looking at registering traders who have exceeded the exemption thresholds. "We did this exercise of issuing notices based on certain data. We need to do spot inspection. We will be monitoring if they register themselves or not," said a source.

Sources said that once they register under GST, not everybody will be under the purview of the State. "In terms of new registration, 50% will go to the Centre. We are in touch with the Central authorities also to ensure that there is evenness in the dealing."

Without having much data other than what was received from three UPI platforms, the department may find it difficult to find solid ground for collecting taxes retrospectively, sources said. A senior official felt that it was a grey area. "With most traders not maintaining records, it is going to be difficult to prove whatever the amount that they have received is actually for supply of goods or service," he said.

State appeals to Centre to finalise location for second airport

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Union govt. has been urged to upgrade the Hubballi and Belagavi airports to international status

Minister for Industries and Infrastructure Development M.B. Patil met Civil Aviation Minister K. Ram Mohan Naidu in Delhi on Thursday to seek finalisation of location for the second international airport for Bengaluru and also international status for Hubballi and Belagavi airports.

He also sought approval for the inauguration of the Vijayapura airport and urged the Centre to upgrade the Hubballi and Belagavi airports to international status, according to an official release.

Mr. Patil informed the Minister that an expert team from the Airports Authority of India (AAI) had already visited the three shortlisted sites for Bengaluru's second international airport, and their report was being awaited.

Regarding the Vijayapura airport, the Minister noted that the project is ready for launch, with only clearance from the Union Ministry of Environment pending.

Highlighting the importance of the Hubballi and Belagavi airports, Mr. Patil emphasised the need to upgrade them to international status in view of the region's development and to boost connectivity of North Karnataka with South Maharashtra and Goa.

Both airports were being equipped with terminals capable of handling 2,400 passengers an hour and could accommodate AB320 and A321 class aircrafts, respectively.

They were also equipped with night-landing facilities and dedicated cargo terminals.

Stakeholder status

He also appealed to the Centre to consider Karnataka as an active stakeholder in the airport asset monetisation programme.

A more equitable and participatory model would not only recognise the State's significant contribution, but also ensure the long-term sustainability of airport infrastructure development, he stated.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation is currently undertaking airport asset monetisation through public-private partnerships, including the proposed privatisation of 13 airports, such as Hubballi.

However, despite Karnataka's key role in land acquisition, infrastructure development, and operational facilitation, it has not been granted stakeholder status in the monetisation framework, Mr. Patil highlighted.

AB-ArK: Dept. considering relaxing referral system for certain procedures

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Realising that the existing online referral system (ORS) has significantly complicated service delivery under the Ayushman Bharat Arogya Karnataka (AB-ArK) scheme, the Health Department is examining a proposal to relax referral requirements for certain super-speciality procedures in the first phase.

Apart from this, the department is also considering doing away with referrals for all simple secondary procedures in BBMP areas. This is because the existing government hospital beds in Bengaluru are not proportionate to the population and the referral system is causing severe hardship to needy patients.

The proposal has been drafted following a detailed review of the existing online referral system through field visits and interactions with various stakeholders, including health service providers, beneficiaries at private medical colleges and empanelled private hospitals, as well as field staff from the Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST), the agency implementing the health scheme.

The (AB-ArK) scheme covers 1,650 procedures – 294 simple secondary, 251 complex secondary, 934 tertiary care procedures and 171 emergency procedures. While the simple secondary procedures are completely handled at the government hospital level, for all other procedures, patients need to be referred by a government hospital to a higher facility (including empanelled private hospitals) if the former is not equipped to treat the illness. The scheme offers cashless treatment up to ₹5 lakh a year per family. Around 3.42 lakh patients have been referred online since June 2022, when the ORS was introduced in Karnataka, till June 2025.

A file photo of a government hospital. The Health Department is considering doing away with referrals for all simple secondary procedures in BBMP areas.

The referral policy, which has been in place since the inception of the scheme and was done manually prior to June 2022, has undergone multiple changes.

Government institutions currently receive approximately ₹1,000 crore annually from the scheme in the form of claim reimbursements.

Referral system

Harsh Gupta, principal secretary (Health and Family Welfare), told *The Hindu* that interactions with various stakeholders had revealed that the existing referral system has significantly complicated service delivery under the scheme, particularly for under-privileged sections of society. "It adds another layer of complexity during emergencies. Patients are forced to navigate the process just to access services at empanelled institutions," he said. "The proposal is to relax the referral requirements for certain procedures that would anyways have been referred by a government hospital to a private empanelled facility. Procedures such as cardiology, cardiothoracic surgery, cardiovascular surgery, urology, medical oncology, surgical oncology, and radiation oncology can be considered in the first phase. The applicability of the referral policy should depend on the accessibility, availability of services, and capacity of the healthcare system, as well as the patient load," he said.

Besides, referral relaxation is also under consideration for neonatal codes related to babies born in non-empanelled hospitals.

"On a pilot basis, we have relaxed referral requirements for a sub-set of complex secondary and tertiary procedures at Sathya Sai Memorial Hospital in Chickballapur district and BLDE Medical College Hospital in Vijayapura for the last six months. Now, we want to try it out in other reputed medical colleges, selected on some objective criteria such as those preferred by top rankers in NEET exam. We can list out top 50% of such colleges either on this criteria or on some other reasonable criteria. Thereafter, these selected private medical colleges can be exempted from the requirement of reference for tertiary procedures," he explained.

Kempegowda International Airport gets its own signature fragrance

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To enhance the passenger journey through a deeper sensory connection, the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) has unveiled its signature fragrance, Dancing Bamboo, which has been deployed at Terminal 2 (T2).

BIAL, the airport operator, said the fragrance developed in collaboration with Aéromé and crafted exclusively for KIA, introduces "an emotional layer to the travel experience, transforming it into a calm, reflective and memorable experience." The fragrance will be gently diffused at key passenger touchpoints including check-in and arrival areas, infusing the space with a consistent and calming olfactory signature.

To elevate passengers' journey through a deeper sensory connection, the Kempegowda International Airport has unveiled its signature fragrance, Dancing Bamboo, which is currently deployed at Terminal 2. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"The new signature fragrance, a subtle yet powerful olfactory extension of the brand, adds depth and layers to the overall experience, making every arrival and departure at KIA feel more familiar, global, and luxurious," it said. "With our signature fragrance, we aim to transform that vision into a sensory journey that embodies the spirit of the airport – serene, rooted in nature, and quietly luxurious," Shalini Rao, Chief Marketing Officer, BIAL said.

'Forest dwellers, tribals will be allowed to graze livestock in forest areas'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Minister for Forest, Ecology, and Environment Eshwar Khandre on Thursday clarified that forest dwellers and tribals will be allowed to graze their livestock in the forest areas.

"Under the Forest Rights Act, 2006, forest dwellers and tribals are allowed to graze their livestock in the forest. However, livestock from neighbouring States would be banned from grazing in the Karnataka's forest areas," Mr. Khandre said.

On July 22, the Minister had directed Forest Department officials to take steps to ban livestock grazing in all forest areas of Karnataka. This order had come in the backdrop of the death of five tigers in the M.M. Hills Wildlife Sanctuary on June 26. A tigress and its four cubs were reported to have died of poisoning by the owner of the cow which was killed by the big cat.

Mr. Khandre said that as per the Animal Husbandry Department statistics, there are about 33,000 cattle within the limits of the M.M. Hills Wildlife Sanctuary.

"Due to this elephants, bison, wild boars, deer etc. are facing a shortage of fodder and water. There is also a risk of infectious diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease spreading to wildlife. In the backdrop of this threat, it had been suggested to ban grazing of cattle in the forest as per the law. However, exemption will be given to local cattle and those who have rights under the Forest Rights Act," he said.

SC reserves verdict on State's challenge on Darshan's bail

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday reserved for judgment Karnataka's challenge to the State High Court decision to grant bail to Kannada actor Darshan and six others in the Renukaswamy murder case.

A Bench of Justices JB Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan orally questioned whether the High Court had traversed beyond the limits of bail jurisdiction and virtually "dictated an order of acquittal".

The Bench debated whether the High Court indulged in a "perverse exercise" of discretionary power.

The Bench was hearing a plea filed by the State government, represented by senior advocate Siddharth Luthra, against the High Court's December 13, 2024 verdict granting bail to Darshan and the co-accused.

बिहार सरकार

समाहरणालय, अरवल
(मद्यनिषेध एवं उत्पाद शाखा)

बिहार मद्यनिषेध एवं उत्पाद अधिनियम–2016 (यथा संशोधित) के तहत राजसात किये गये वाहनों की नीलामी की अल्पकालीन आम सूचना

एतद् द्वारा सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि बिहार राज्य में पूर्ण शराबबंदी के उपरांत वैसे वाहन जिन्हें मद्यनिषेध एवं उत्पाद अधिनियम–2016 (यथा संशोधित) में विहित प्रावधानों के तहत अरवल जिला अन्तर्गत मद्यनिषेध एवं उत्पाद विभाग द्वारा जप्त एवं समाहर्त्ता–सह–जिला दण्डाधिकारी, अरवल के द्वारा अधिहरित किया गया है, उनकी सार्वजनिक नीलामी किया जाना है। वाहन की नीलामी तिथि–**21.08.2025** को निर्धारित की गई है, उक्त तिथि के पूर्व तक संबंधित वाहन स्वामी वाहन विमुक्ति हेतु स्वंय उपस्थित होकर विधि शाखा, अरवल/अधीक्षक मद्यनिषेध, अरवल में आवेदन समर्पित कर सकते है। तदालोक में उक्त अधिहरित वाहन जो जिला के उत्पाद मालखाना में संचित हैं, उसे **"जो हैं, जहाँ है, जैसा है"** के आधार पर गठित नीलामी समिति द्वारा निम्न सारणी के अनुसार नीलामी की जाएगी :–

नीलामी की निर्धारित तिथि		आवेदन प्राप्त करने की तिथि	आवेदन प्राप्त/जमा करने का स्थान	नीलामी का स्थान एवं समय
प्रथम नीलामी की तिथि	21.08.2025	प्रकाशन की तिथि से 18.08.2025 तक।	कार्यालय अधीक्षक मद्यनिषेध, अरवल।	समाहरणालय परिसर, अरवल (इन्डोर स्टेडियम) पूर्वाह्न 10:00 बजे से ।
द्वितीय नीलामी की तिथि	26.08.2025	24.08.2025		
तृतीय नीलामी की तिथि	30.08.2025	28.08.2025		

नीलामी योग्य वाहनों की सूची निम्नवत् है :–

क्र0	अधिहरण वाद संख्या	अधिहरण आदेश का ज्ञापांक/दिनांक	थाना कांड संख्या/दिनांक	वाहन का प्रकार	वाहन का निबंधन संख्या	चेचिस नं0	वाहन का निर्माण वर्ष	मूल्यांकन की गई राशि	अग्रधन की राषि (20%)	वाहन स्वामी का नाम/पता	अभियुक्ति
01	19/24	60 मु0/विधि दिनांक–20.07.2024	उत्पाद 304/23 28.09.23	स्पलैण्डर मोटरसाईकिल	KA17E H-1179	MD2A14 AZ2CWD 18030	2012	9,200/-	1,840/-	डॉ0 अनुभव अग्रवाल, पिता–सिताराम अग्रवाल, पता–रूम नं0–150, डेन्टल कॉलेज, बॉयज हॉस्टल, एमसीसी, बी0 ब्लॉक, दावानगेरे, कर्नाटक।	

विस्तृत जानकारी **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar** से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

समाहर्त्ता
–सह–
जिला दण्डाधिकारी, अरवल

PR. No. 009456 (Excise) 25-26

नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

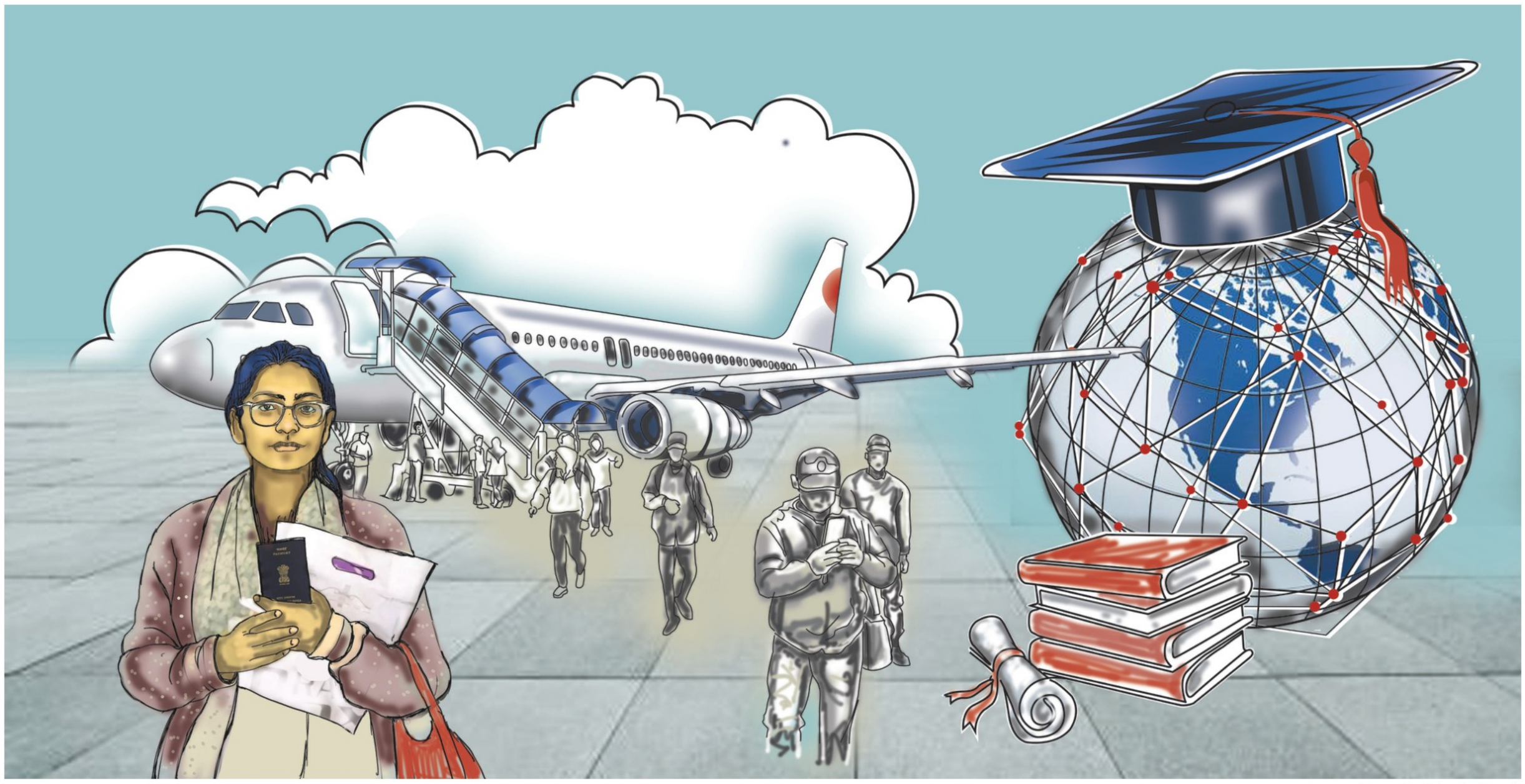


Illustration: Sebastian Francis

For Karnataka students, the grass is still greener overseas

Be it geopolitical tensions, new immigration laws, visa troubles or non-availability of jobs, many students who had gone abroad from Karnataka have returned in the last couple of years. While uncertainty loomed over many of their futures, some have managed to bring their studies and careers back on track after either flying to other countries to complete their education or deciding to find jobs in India, writes **Jahnavi T.R.**

In September 2021, Nikitha Rajesh, a student from Bengaluru, flew to London to pursue her long-standing dream of a foreign education. After completing her Bachelor of Arts degree in Bengaluru and gaining two years of work experience, she secured admission to a master's programme in Digital Marketing and Analytics in a private university in the United Kingdom (UK).

By the time she finished the one-year programme, the immigration laws of the U.K. had changed, leaving her with no sponsors for a work visa. Cut to 2025, she is back in Bengaluru and working in a private company after her job prospects in the U.K. did not work out.

When a war broke out in Ukraine in 2022, around 18,000 people from India were escorted back to the country by the Union government under 'Operation Ganga'. A majority of them were students who were pursuing a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS). Among the returnees was Mahaganapathi Kashinath from Karnataka. After attempts to continue his education in India failed, he went to Uzbekistan to finish his medical course.

Recently, in June 2025, under 'Operation Sindhu', the government brought back over 3,500 people from Iran after tensions escalated between the country and Israel. Among these were also a few students from Karnataka who were pursuing medical education there.

Be it geopolitical tensions, new immigration laws, visa troubles or non-availability of jobs, many students who had gone to countries such as the United States of America, Ukraine, Russia, Canada, the U.K. and those in Central Asia from Karnataka have returned in the last couple of years. While uncertainty loomed over many of their futures, some have managed to bring their studies and careers back on track after either flying to other countries to complete their education or deciding to find jobs in India.

Ukraine to other countries

For the students who were in Ukraine, returning home was a necessity as their safety was not guaranteed in the war-torn country any more. But once they were back home, they were not sure if they would be able to continue their education. Most of them ended up transferring to universities in one of the 29 countries under the Academic Mobility Programme initiated by the Ukrainian government after the National Medical Council issued a "no-objection" to it. However, this one-time opportunity was available only for the final-year medical students.

Luckily, Mahaganapathi was in his final year of MBBS. "When my son returned from Ukraine, he attended online classes for six months. All of us, parents, tried so much to get the Indian government to admit our students to a medical college here. But it was in vain. He had no choice but to go to Uzbekistan to finish his course, just like 90% of the students from his class. While we were relieved that he got to finish his education, we were a little disappointed as he had to repeat a semester after going to Uzbekistan, as they did not validate the semester that was conducted online," said his father, Kashinath Bilimaggad from Gadag district in north Karnataka. Mahaganapathi hopes to return to India for his post-graduation studies and find work here, according to his father.

> The market is still booming for MBBS education abroad. Countries like Uzbekistan and Georgia are selling the dream of becoming a doctor at a cost of ₹25 lakh to ₹30 lakh.
>
> **AMEEN-E-MUDASSAR,** international career counsellor

Alternative options

For the students who returned from Ukraine, countries like Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and the Philippines became alternative options for their education. Educational counsellors reported that most of their clients ended up going to one of these countries to finish their medical degrees, even if they had to seek fresh admissions. Many of them had initially gone to Ukraine as one lakh medical seats in India that become available every year are nowhere close to the demand.

Similar stories are narrated by students who have returned from Iran. Syeda Muffarhe Zainab was pursuing her final year MBBS at a university in Tehran when the war broke out. Now, back in her home town in Chickballapur district in south Karnataka, she is hoping to return to Iran. "I am constantly in touch with the university, and they have said we might be able to go back by August 20. But if God forbid something happens and we cannot make it back there, then I would like to request the government to provide us with some seats here as we are almost finished with our course," she says.

Most students go abroad seeking exposure that they believe they cannot find in India, especially when they go to countries such as the U.S., the U.K., and Australia. "I went to the U.K. to get a more universal educational experience where I get to learn with people of many nationalities and experts," says Nikitha.

When she initially went there, her plan was to find a job and settle down in the U.K. However, when she was about to finish her degree, a new immigration policy – which mandated a £37,000 income to get a sponsored work visa – came into force. With her two years of experience in India and some short-term gigs in the U.K., she did not qualify for a sponsorship from companies there.

"No matter what skills you have, it all comes down to whether you need a visa to work in the U.K. If you need a visa, then the job interview would not move forward from there. While I could buy a work visa for the first two years after I finished my education, after that period, a company would need to sponsor it. I applied for hundreds of jobs, but because of the visa constraint, I had to move back home," she says.

She says that many of her Indian peers who were insistent on staying back in the U.K. changed their job sectors/industries just to get a work visa sponsorship.

Repaying educational loans

For students affected by such immigration policies, returning home is the only option, but jobs here would not pay them as much as in foreign countries. This particularly becomes a problem for students who have taken educational loans.

"I knew almost six months prior that I would not get a visa extension, even though I had already worked for two years in the U.K. after finishing my studies. Hence, I started saving up by cutting down on my expenses as I knew I had to pay my monthly loan instalments once I was back home, even if I did not have a job or got a job that might not pay very well. It has been three months since I returned, and I have been applying for jobs in Singapore, Australia, and New Zealand, as it is difficult to pay back my loan on an Indian salary," says Akash Venkateshan, who pursued a Master of Science degree in the U.K.

The demand for higher education in the U.S. has slightly reduced now, especially after the Donald Trump administration announced that the social media accounts of college applicants will be checked for background verification. "This announcement has forced a lot of students to clean up their digital footprint, as some fear has gripped them. It has also taken the U.S. out as an option for students who are outspoken or are activists and do not wish to provide access to their social media accounts," says Ameen-e-Mudassar, international career counsellor.

Some students who originally preferred the U.S. for their education are now considering options such as Germany, Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, and Australia, while Canada, which was the other preferred destination, has also lost demand now, owing to its diplomatic clashes with India.

Rahul Subramaniam, co-founder of an educational consultancy, says that students who have already secured admission to top U.S. colleges remain committed to their paths. "For them, the academic and professional opportunities they are accessing far outweigh the usual ups and downs of American politics," he says.

Why foreign education?

Despite recent events and tensions, the demand for foreign education is on the rise among Bengaluru students, according to educational counsellors as well as data from the government. While there were 1.3 million students pursuing higher education abroad in 2024, according to the Ministry of External Affairs, the latest numbers are close to 1.8 million. Many of them have changed their destinations, but their dreams remain the same.

"The market is still booming for MBBS education abroad," notes Ameen. "Countries like Uzbekistan and Georgia are selling the dream of becoming a doctor at a cost of ₹25 lakh to ₹30 lakh. Even after so many wars, not much has changed in this regard. This is just a matter of selling an acre of land to make their children doctors, especially for rural students," Ameen says. He adds that Central Asian countries depend on students from India for their economic boost.

While some of these MBBS students practise medicine in those countries after finishing their course, others struggle to find employment. Counsellors say that some of them end up as agents to bring in more students to the universities and work on a commission basis.

Are students so desperate for education abroad due to the lack of quality education in India? Not entirely, according to experts. "Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, and many private universities offer good quality education in India. But today's youngsters are interested in exploring the world. Their priorities are different as they do not care about generational wealth and would want to build something on their own, and they view education abroad as a gateway to that," Ameen says.

Counsellors and consultants say that foreign colleges and universities sell their programmes better than those in India. "They have good tie-ups with agents and push their colleges in ways that Indian universities do not. Top-tier colleges in India also look for knowledge and skills while for many foreign countries, it is about the money Indian students bring," he says.

Another driving factor is the advent of social media. "If one person from a family moves abroad for education, the number of stories they put up on social media inspires other youngsters to pursue education abroad," he says.

A file photo of evacuated students from Ukraine who arrived at the Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru.

Watson's Pub: Rava fried prawns

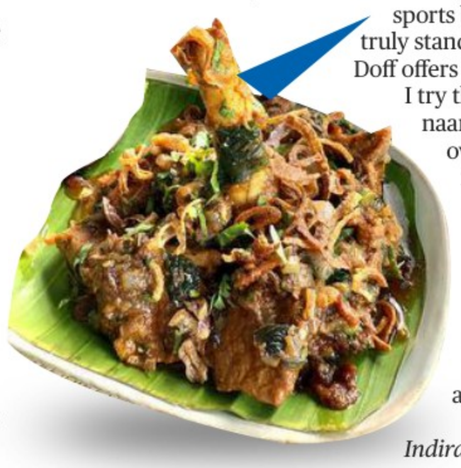
Started in 2014, Watson's Pub is another staple in the city's pub circuit. It is a great place to meet new people, dance, or just catch up with old friends. Their multi-cuisine menu features a range of vegetarian and non-vegetarian options such as mac and cheese sticks, kodi karepak vepudu, Goan squid chilli fry, and peri peri paneer tikka.

The rava fried prawns stand out here. Marinated in salt, chili, and pepper, coated with egg white and rava, deep-fried, and dusted with peri peri powder, they are crispy on the outside and tender on the inside, making them a great match with chilled beer.

Rava fried prawns priced at ₹425. At Assaye Road

Taking the bar

Bengaluru's local dive bars also serve some much-loved classics, from rava fried prawns and mutton sukka, to chilli pork and more



Prachi Rathi

Bengaluru's pub culture has always been vibrant, home to some of the city's most iconic watering holes. Every Bengalurean has their favorite go-to spot, each holding its own timeless charm. These old-school pubs are known not just for their pocket-friendly alcohol prices, but also for mouth-watering bites that complement your drink. Here is a list of our favourites.

Doff: Mutton sukka

Established in 2011, Doff became popular for its breezy ambience and sport screenings. The interior, with flags of various countries hanging from the ceiling and multiple television screens tuned in to the match of the day, gives off a sports bar vibe. However, it is the food that truly stands out. With a multi-cuisine menu, Doff offers a range of options to suit every taste. I try the mutton sukka with Doff special naan. The mutton is slow-cooked overnight in a tandoor, resulting in a rich, tender dish. For those seeking healthier options, Doff also serves guilt-free dishes such as raw banana tikki, sauteed chickpeas, broccoli kebab and dal kosambari . Other crowd favourites here include beer-battered onion rings, a variety of chicken kebabs, nachos, pizzas and prawn peratti.

Mutton sukka is priced at ₹389. At Indiranagar

Bob's Bar: Lobo's pork chilli bafat

Opened in 2018 in Indiranagar before expanding to other parts of the city, Bob's Bar quickly became popular for its affordable alcohol and food. Instead of generic bar snacks, Bob's serves a variety of dishes from South Indian cuisines. A popular choice is Lobo's pork chilli bafat, succulent, juicy, and coated with the right amount of spices. Also worth trying are the naked fish masala, crispy ladies finger, and Gowda mutton chops.

Lobo's pork chilli bafat priced at ₹185. At Indiranagar

Pecos: Tenderloin chilli

At Pecos, one of the foremost retro rock music pubs in the country, I try the Pecos tenderloin chilli, a top pick of diners for 30 years. This dish is moderately spicy and pairs well with a crisp beer. Other recommendations include Pecos chicken dry fry, chilli prawn, Pecos chilli pork and neer dosa with chicken curry.

Pecos tenderloin chilli is priced at ₹345. At Indiranagar

Dolphins: Prawn ghee roast

The 48-year-old Dolphins bar and kitchen is a nostalgic treasure for many Bengalureans. Recently revamped with fresh interiors, it continues to charm. The menu has homely Mangalorean dishes, alongside tandoori and kebabs starters. On my visit to Dolphins, I am seated next to a group of men on their school reunion. At their suggestion, I try the prawn ghee roast. The vibrant red masala coating the prawns is a hit. The prawn ghee roast pairs well with soft neer dosa, making it a perfect starter or main. Other must-tries include the mutton cutlet, Coorgi *pandi* fry, *anjal pullichattu* and squid pepper.

Prawn ghee roast is priced at ₹460. At Cox Town

Ujwal Restaurant: Tender coconut kebab

Ujwal Restaurant has been serving customers for 18 years, with branches in Vasanth Nagar, Sanjay Nagar and RT Nagar. While the interiors are modest, the restaurant is known for outstanding food. A signature dish here is the tender coconut kebab. Introduced 15 years ago, it features boneless chicken pieces cooked in a spicy green masala (best paired with neer dosa) and served inside a tender coconut shell. Ujwal is also popular for Mangalorean dishes such as prawn tender, crab masala fry, *anjal* masala fry, and pot fish curry. With minimalist interiors and old school vibes, this bar can easily become your everyday hangout spot.

Tender coconut kebab at Priced at ₹320. At Vasanth Nagar

Play it like you mean it

The 12th edition of the SmaranniK Theatre Festival will comprise a collage of four Bengali plays spread across three shows

Theatre in town A scene from *Borda Borda.* SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SmaranniK, a registered Bengali theatre group in Bangalore, is all set to stage their 12th theatre festival this weekend. The festival, which will comprise a collage of four plays spread across three shows, will be held on July 26 at J.P.Nagar

The show opens with two short plays, *Better Half*, a story about a quest for true love, followed by *Borda Borda*, a popular comedy about two brothers, starring veteran actor, Goutam Halder, and based on Munshi Premchand's *Bade Bhaisahab.*

This will be followed by *Kolponaar Oteet*, performed by Sangeet Natak Academy Awardee actor Debsankar Halder as the protagonist, and written and directed by Debasish Ray. Set in an imaginary world where time travels backwards and people rise from the grave, their age being gradually erased over time, before finally returning to their mothers' wombs.

The final play of the festival is *Golpe Ja Nei*, which will feature legendary actors Meghnad Bhattacharya, Chandan Sen, and Shantilal Mukherjee. This new play, premiering at the festival, has been written by renowned playwright Ujjwal Chattopadhyay and is directed by Chandan Sen. It revolves around a conversation between old Kashinath and his friend, Shankar. On a lazy evening at a park, over the course of a chat between friends, one comes to discover some exciting revelations.

The SmaranniK Theatre Festival 2025 will be held on July 26 at the MLR Convention Centre, 1st Floor, JP Nagar. Tickets are priced at ₹850, ₹550 and ₹350. To book, call 9741408132 or visit BookMyShow.

Poetry for all (Clockwise from left) Parvathy Baul; a scene from a previous edition of the children's festival; Sandhya Mridul. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Verse and the city

The Bengaluru Poetry Festival is all set to kickoff, with notable speakers like Ramya Nambessan, Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra, Sandhya Mridul, Justh, Jeet Thayil and Madhan Karky

Preeti Zachariah
preeti.zachariah@thehindu.co.in

Subodh Sankar still remembers the first time he heard the Odia poet Bishnu Mohapatra read his work at Atta Galatta, a decade or so ago. "He read in Odia, and it gave me goosebumps...without understanding a word of what he read," says the co-founder of Atta Galatta. "That is the power of poetry," believes Subodh, who, with a core team of poets and poetry lovers, conceptualised the Bengaluru Poetry Festival back in 2016.

Bishnu, "a very, very senior poet," will be one of the many speakers who will be part of the 9th Edition of the Bengaluru Poetry Festival, which will be held in the city on August 2 and 3. Some of the others include Ramya Nambessan, Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra, Sandhya Mridul, Justh, Jeet Thayil andMadhan Karky.

"There are plenty of big names that we are looking forward to at the festival," says Subodh, adding that the festival ends with a performance by Parvathy Baul.

As always, the festival will showcase poets in multiple languages, including Kannada, Tamil, Malayalam, Hindi, Urdu, Bangla, and Mizo. "We are very proud of the fact that we have been able to bring poetry in different languages to the city."

This year, for the first time, the festival will be held at the Indiranagar Sangeetha Sabha, "a standard performance venue with a beautiful outdoor area", instead of a hotel. "In that sense, the festival has significantly reduced its footprint and gone back to nature, something we are proud of."

Another major change in this edition, he says, is the inclusion of more poets from outside the country. These include Sri Lankan poet Shirani Rajapakse, American writer and poet Claudia Keelan, Singaporean poet and translator Daryl Lim Wie Jie and Emirati poets Ali AlMaazmi and Amal Al Sahlawi.

In yet another first, the festival is instituting a fellowship for young, unpublished poets aged 18-24, the Utkarsh Poetry. An announcement for this fellowship, created in partnership with Dr Neena Verma, a medical doctor from Delhi, was made about a month and a half ago to "overwhelming response," says Subodh. "It is now going through the jury process."

This edition will feature approximately 86 speakers, including the facilitators of the children's festival, which will take place in parallel with the main festival, a crucial aspect of the programming. "For the last four years, we have had a children's festival happening alongside the poetry festival," says Subodh, who believes that it is a great way to introduce children to the world of books. "Children who read, turn into adults who read and adults who read turn into writers," he says.

The 9th edition of the Bengaluru Poetry Festival will be held on August 2 and 3 at the Indiranagar Sangeetha Sabha. Entry is free and all are welcome.

STEPOUT

Textile magic

Raw Mango will host its annual sale in Bengaluru, featuring a wide selection of the brand's signature saris and garments, known for their distinctive design rooted in Indian textile traditions.

At Raw Mango, 5 & 6 Walton Road, Lavelle Road, from August 1 to 3, between 11 am and 7 pm.

Decode your food

Akshayakalpa Organic, in collaboration with The Organic World, will host a label-reading workshop for kids and parents.

At The Organic World, Doddakannelli - Kaadubeesanahalli Road, on July 27, from 10 am. Tickets, priced at ₹599, can be purchased at district.in.

Laugh out loud

Standup coming Vikas Kush Sharma will bring his signature mix of savage crowd work, real-life tales, and brutally funny insights to the city, offering hilarious observations about love, dysfunction, and the madness of modern life.

At Fan Park, 2nd Floor, Phoenix Mall of Asia, on July 26, from 6 pm onwards. Tickets are available on BookMyShow.

Grand Flea Market
Presents
LAST 3 DAYS
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ಸವ
Bengaluru Utsava
(Art, Craft, Handlooms & Lifestyle Exhibition)
Date: 11th July to 27th July 2025
Timing: 10:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Venue:
Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath
(7 Galleries and Lawn Area)
Near Shivananda Circle, Kumara Krupa Road
Bengaluru - 560 001.
Contact: 6364685716 / 9036658774
17 Days Exhibition Entry Free
70+ Shopping Stalls | 50+ Craftsman | Entry Free

Bill related to abolition of child marriages to be tabled

Under Karnataka Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which will be tabled in the Monsoon Session, all legislators, leaders, and elders involved in a child's engagement or marriage will be punished

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Cabinet on Thursday approved the Karnataka Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2025, to criminalise the engagement of a child (betrothal), which was not punishable earlier.

Helping hand: The Karnataka Platform Based Gig Workers (Social Security and Welfare) Bill, 2025, will replace an Ordinance promulgated to create a welfare fund for platform-based gig workers and place obligations on aggregators. FILE PHOTO

The Karnataka Private Medical Establishments Bill, 2025, will be brought in to regulate private ambulance service providers

Stringent action

The Bill envisages stringent action against those involved in a child's betrothal and marriage.

Under the law, all legislators, leaders, and elders involved in a child's engagement and marriage would be punished, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil told reporters after the Cabinet meeting on Thursday.

Among other decisions, it was decided that the Karnataka Private Medical Establishments (KPME) Bill, 2025, would be brought in to regulate private ambulance service providers.

The Bill will be tabled in the Monsoon Session of the legislature. The Bill also envisages registration of mobile health clinics run by private medical institutions.

Gig workers' Bill

The Karnataka Platform Based Gig Workers (Social Security and Welfare) Bill, 2025, will also tabled during the session. It would replace an Ordinance promulgated to create a welfare fund for platform-based gig workers and place obligations on aggregators.

The government had taken the Ordinance route to implement the welfare provisions. The Cabinet cleared the Bill in April, 2025, but it took the Ordinance route since the State legislature was not in session. It emphasises the rights of gig workers, proposes a welfare fee of 1% to 5% of the payout to the worker during each transaction. All such fees received would go to the welfare fund for the workers.

It is estimated that there are 2.3 lakh gig workers in Karnataka.

The Cabinet approved ₹880.68 crore for the purchase of medicines and other medical requirements of public health hospitals/utilities in Karnataka.

A total of 46 prisoners serving life sentence would be prematurely released from prisons in the State. The life convicts would be released on humanitarian grounds as a goodwill conduct, Mr. Patil said.

For Sanketh Trust

The Cabinet permitted Sanketh Trust, a non-profit trust established in 1992, to pay 10% of the annual contract value for the site measuring 1350.5 square metres. The trust administers Ranga Shankara, with Arundhathi Nag as its managing trustee.

Seven Bills to be tabled to make Revenue Minister chairman of authorities

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Cabinet on Thursday decided to introduce seven Bills for bringing about amendments to existing authorities, allowing for the appointment of the Revenue Minister as the chairman of various authorities.

Till now, the Chief Minister was the chairman of seven authorities. Since the Chief Minister was burdened with the State administrative work, it was decided that amendments to make the Revenue Minister as the chairman would be brought in, said Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs and Tourism H.K. Patil told reporters here after the Cabinet meeting.

The Bills will be introduced during the Monsoon Session of the State legislature session which would commence on August 11.

The Bills that would be introduced are: the Kudalasangama Development Authority (Amendment) Bill 2025; the Kaginele Development Authority (Amendment) Bill 2025; the Basava Kalyana Development Authority (Amendment) Bill 2025; the Banavasi Development Authority (Amendment) Bill 2025; the Sarvajna Development Authority (Amendment) Bill 2025; the Kittur Development Authority (Amendment) Bill 2025, and the Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Heritage Area Development Authority (Amendment) Bill 2025.

Lake Bill

The Cabinet decided to introduce the Karnataka Lake Conservation and Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2025, for allowing changes to the 2014 Act, to fix a buffer zone depending on the size of the lake and provide basic facilities to citizens.

The Act was brought in 2014 to protect, conserve, reclaim, restore, regenerate, and integrate the development of lakes in Karnataka. It aimed to address the existing deficiencies in lake management by creating a dedicated authority.

Centre of excellence

The Cabinet has decided to establish a centre of excellence in the space tech sector with an initial investment of ₹10 crore in five years in Bengaluru. The Satellite Communication Industry Association will be the implementing agency.

The Cabinet approved the Local Economy Accelerator Programme with an investment of ₹1,000 crore in the next five years. A sum of ₹200 crore would be provided in the first year. The project comes under the IT/BT and Science and Technology Departments.

Other Cabinet decisions

- **₹50 crore** to set up Kidwai's Peripheral Cancer Centre in Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality Hospital in Raichur
- **₹62 crore** to construct a 450-bed building for the Indira Gandhi Children's Hospital in Bengaluru
- **₹25 crore** for modernisation of a lift-irrigation project at Yaragatti in Saundatti taluk of Belagavi district
- **₹20 crore** for modernisation of Renuka lift-irrigation project in Saundatti taluk of Belagavi district
- **₹178 crore** for executing Salagunda lift irrigation project in Sindhanur taluk of Raichur district
- **₹29 crore** for taking up bridge-cum-barrage across Sindhanur stream in Raichur district
- **₹148.8 crore** for filling 10 tanks in Arsikere taluk in Hassan district under the Yettinahole comprehensive drinking water project

Shivakumar asserts that Karnataka will go ahead with Mahadayi project

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Taking serious exception to Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant for his statement that the Union Environment Ministry would not give permission for Karnataka's Mahadayi project, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has asserted that the State would start work on the project.

D.K. Shivakumar

The Deputy Chief Minister also reiterated that the State would try to take an all-party leaders' delegation to Delhi to convince the Centre about the need to provide all clearances for the proposed project. He said he would also meet all the MPs from Karnataka to seek their support.

"We will withdraw our application in this regard from the Supreme Court and start the work on the project," said Mr. Shivakumar, who also holds the Water Resources portfolio.

"The tribunal concerned has given its verdict on Mahadayi and we have already called for tender. BJP leaders, including Basavaraj Bommai and Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, had even celebrated saying that the Mahadayi project would take off soon post the promise of approval by the Centre," he said.

He said it was wrong on the part of the State MPs not to raise their voice on this issue. "I urge the MPs from the State to put pressure on the Centre. I will try to take an all-party delegation to Delhi," he said.

Asked if the Union Minister was "misleading" the State on Mahadayi, he said: "The Union Jal Shakti Minister is impartial on the matter and he won't politicise this. I have already met him four-five times. Both of them support development works. The issue is with Goa."

Replying to a query on Rahul Gandhi's allegation of vote stealing during Lok Sabha election, he said: "I agree and have also started my own investigation regarding this in Bengaluru Rural Lok Sabha constituency. Many irregularities took place here too."

Siddaramaiah accuses BJP of manipulating LS polls

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Endorsing the views of Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi that elections were being "stolen" in the country and that the Congress had understood the modus operandi of "vote theft" by studying a Lok Sabha constituency in Karnataka, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday alleged that the Congress party's setback in the LS polls in Karnataka was owing to the "manipulation by BJP through its misuse of the Election Commission."

> In several constituencies across the State, our party workers reported sudden and suspicious additions of new voters, while the names of long-time voters were removed without justification.
>
> **SIDDARAMAIAH,** Chief Minister

Discussions under way

The Chief Minister said the Congress leaders of the State were currently holding discussions with Mr. Rahul Gandhi and AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge to decide the necessary course of action with respect to the alleged electoral fraud in Karnataka.

"It is now becoming increasingly evident that the Congress' setback was not owing to public opinion, but rather the illegal manipulation of the electoral process, a manipulation carried out by the BJP through its misuse of the Election Commission," Mr. Siddaramaiah said in a release, coinciding with his Delhi visit.

"In several constituencies across the State, our party workers reported sudden and suspicious additions of new voters, while the names of long-time voters were removed without justification," he alleged.

It is now increasingly clear that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's election victories "were driven by systematic voter fraud, orchestrated through the Election Commission itself," he further alleged.

'No chance of immediate deportation of daughters of Russian woman'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central government has told the High Court of Karnataka that no decision has been taken on deportation of two minor children of Russian woman Nina Kutina, who was taken into custody after she was found living in a cave deep inside the forest at Gokarna in Uttara Kannada district on July 11.

The submissions in this regard were made before Justice S. Sunil Dutt Yadav on Wednesday during the hearing of a petition filed by Dror Shlomo Goldstein, father of the children and former husband of Ms. Kutina.

The petitioner, an Israeli national, had sought a direction to the Centre not to immediately deport minor children, Prema, 6, and Ama, 5, and permit him to meet the children, who have been kept in detention centre, and hand over the custody of children to him.

Arvind Kamath, Additional Solicitor-General of India, appearing for the Centre, told the court that Ama Kutina had no records evidencing her birth nor does she possess any travel documents. In the light of non-possession of travel documents, for the present, the apprehension of petitioner regarding deportation of the children was not a reasonable one, he said.

The court gave two weeks to the Central government to take a stand on the petitioner's pleas while making it clear that if there was any proposal for deportation before the next date of hearing, August 18, the Centre could move the court.

Abhimanyu to be the lead Dasara elephant

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Abhimanyu will once again be the lead tusker in this year's Dasara festivities as it will carry the famed 750-kg golden howdah.

Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre on Thursday announced the names of the first batch of nine elephants which will take part in the festivities. In total, 14 elephants will participate in the festivities.

Fifty-nine-year-old Abhimanyu will be leading the first batch of elephants that are going to march to Mysuru on August 4 from their respective jungle camps as part of Gajapayana. Mr. Khandre said Abhimanyu from the Mathigodu camp in Nagarahole is a prominent Kumki elephant who has participated in more than 300 elephant capture operations and more than 80 tiger capture operations.

The other elephants whose names were announced by the Minister are Bhima, 25, from Mathigodu, Kanjan, 24, Dhananjaya, 44, Prashant, 53, Kaveri, 45, from Dubare, Mahendra, 42, and Lakshmi, 53, from Balle, Ekalavya, 40, from Doddaharve.

In the second phase, five elephants will be brought to Mysuru from various camps.

On arrival, the elephants, under the supervision of the forest officers, will train them for the Jamboo Savari on the day of Dasara finale.

Dharmasthala case: Home Minister says an officer wants to be excused from SIT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Confusion over DCP Soumyalatha's posting in the Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe allegations of mass burial in Dharmasthala in Dakshina Kannada continues.

Two days after Home Minister G. Parameshwara dismissed reports that some officers sought to avoid the task, he said on Thursday that he came across information that one of the officers wanted to be excused for personal reason.

Dr. Parameshwara said that he was aware about Ms. Soumyalatha's desire to be excused from being a part of the SIT for personal reasons, but there was no official communication yet. "If there is such an issue, she will be replaced," he said.

While some reports indicated that two members of the SIT had sought to be excused from the investigation citing personal reasons, Dr. Parameshwara said no such request had officially been made.

> I haven't given any instructions to Pronab Mohanty. He just met to express his gratitude for giving him the task and promised to work sincerely.
>
> **G. PARAMESHWARA,** Home Minister

Pronab Mohanty, who heads the SIT, met the Home Minister on July 21 before formally taking charge. "I haven't given any instructions to Mr. Mohanty. He just met to express his gratitude for giving him the task and promised to work sincerely," Dr. Parameshwara added.

The Karnataka government accepted demands from various sections of society to form an SIT to investigate the allegations of mass graves in and around the temple town of Dharmasthala. The SIT was constituted on July 19, with Director General of Police (Internal Security Division) Pronab Mohanty as the head. He will be assisted by DIG (recruitment) M.N. Anucheth, DCP (CAR) Soumyalatha S.K., and SP (ISD) Jitendra Kumar Dayama.

On July 22, the Home Department announced the names of 20 personnel who will be part of the SIT. The order directed the officials concerned to provide logistics, including required office space and vehicles, to the SIT.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

A Thakurdas Vyas (83yrs), Retired Supervisor (Composing News), The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 24-July-2025. Address : No: 56-B, II Main Road, II Block, Kaviarasu Kannadasan Nagar, Chennai - 600118. Contact: 9841725113

DEATH

Dr. Shantha Krishnamurthy, Ex Head Cytology Tata Memorial Hospital, Bombay, left for her heavenly abode on Thursday 24-07-2025. May her soul rest in eternal peace.
Grieving husband: C Krishnamurthy
Children: Soumya & Shyam; Shailaja & Karthick
Grandchildren: Nandini, Vittal, Vaishnavi and Vallabh
Funeral: Friday 25th July between 10am-12 at Koodlu Crematorium

Writer Imayam in conversation with Justice Prabha Sridevan (retired) at *The Hindu* in Chennai on Thursday. THAMODHARAN B.

'A writer creates a work, but a translator brings new life to it'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The task of a writer is to create, while the translator, in turn, breathes new life into it through another language, said Sahitya Akademi award-winning Tamil writer Imayam on Thursday.

Mr. Imayam was in conversation with Justice (retired) Prabha Sridevan, former judge of the Madras High Court, who has translated three of his books into English, at *The Hindu* office in Chennai.

Sharing her experience of working with Mr. Imayam, Justice Sridevan said, "Translating *vattara vazhakku* (regional dialect) into English is difficult. But Mr. Imayam does not use *vattara vazhakku* in his writing. His language is unique."

While talking about translating Mr. Imayam's *Ippodhu Uyirodirukkiren* into the English edition (*I'm alive... for now*), Justice Sridevan said, "The story is narrated by a 15-year-old boy. I cannot use words like 'dichotomy' or 'parameters' while translating his voice. I have to be conscious of the kind of words he would have used if he had known English. I cannot use polysyllabic words. The language has to be simple and true to his age and background."

"Love is the foundation of all my stories," Mr. Imayam said, while talking about where he draws inspiration for his stories. As society continues to change, it is the duty of a writer to document that transformation. The foremost responsibility of a writer is to keep renewing and reshaping the language through creative evolution, to ensure that the language remains alive and relevant, he said.

"To me, storytelling comes second. Reviving and refreshing the language comes first. That is my identity. In the past two thousand years, many kings and wealthy people have come and gone. Only Tholkappiyar, Thiruvalluvar, and Kambar still live on through their writings," he added.

(*This conversation was held as part of* The Hindu*'s Out of Print series with writers*)

Realigned highway to Bengaluru via Shiradi to be ready in five years

NHAI project director says the new alignment is being worked out jointly with the Railways, which will take about a year to get approval and about three years for completion

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The tunnel and the realigned road to Bengaluru from Mangaluru through Shiradi Ghat will be ready in about five years, said Abdullah Javed Azmi, NHAI project director, here on Thursday.

Answering a question by former Minister B. Nagaraj Shetty during the discussion on "Unlocking mobility: Enhaning Road, Rail and Air connectivity to Mangaluru", Mr. Azmi said the new alignment is being worked out jointly by NHAI and Railways.

'It will take about a year to get approval for the new alignment. It will take about three years to complete the work. The road, as per the new alignment, will not be ready for five years," Mr. Azmi said. Till the completion of the work on the new alignment, the existing National Highway 75 should continue to be used, he said.

NHAI project director Abdullah Javed Azmi says widening of NH 75 stretch between B.C. Road and Gudya to four-lane is nearing completion. ANIL KUMAR SASTRY

This discussion was part of the CII Mangaluru's Infrastructure and Logistics Summit.

Mr. Azmi said widening of NH 75 between B.C. Road and Gudya to four-lane was nearing completion. Widening of Mysuru-Mani NH 275 between Mysuru and Madikeri has been taken up. Mr. Azmi said it is necessary to look at the widening of the highway through Sampaje Ghat also in order to have another road to connecting the hinterland and Mangaluru.

The NHAI officer said due to some technical reasons the work related to Kuloor bridge in Mangaluru got delayed.

"We hope to complete the work by January 2026," he said.

Elevated road

In order to decongest movement of transport vehicles to the New Mangaluru Port, Mr. Azmi said the NHAI has planned to construct a 1.3 km elevated highway on NH 66. He added that a presentation on the elevated highway will be made shortly to New Mangalore Port Authority, which is keen to fund the work. For faster connectivity to NMP, NHAI has proposed to have an all-weather road along Phalguni (Gurupura) River to connect B.C. Road. The NHAI will shortly approach an agency for preparing DPR for this work.

Veteran ophthalmologist passes away at 85

The Hindu Bureau
MADURAI

Madurai-based Aravind Eye Hospital's chairman emeritus P. Namperumalsamy died at the age of 85 on Thursday. He is survived by his wife Nachiar and two sons, Venkatesh Prajna and Vishnu Prasad.

Born on July 9, 1940, to an agricultural family in a small hamlet in Theni district, Dr. Namperumalsamy – well known as Dr. Nam – did his MBBS at Madurai Medical College and moved to Boston, U.S., to pursue higher education. He was the first retina specialist in the country.

He practised at Erskine Hospital, Madurai (now known as Government Rajaji Hospital), before starting his own venture, Mr. Venkatesh Prajna said.

Dr. Namperumalsamy received the Padma Shri in 2007 for his contributions to the field of ophthalmology. He received several awards over the course of a long and illustrious career.

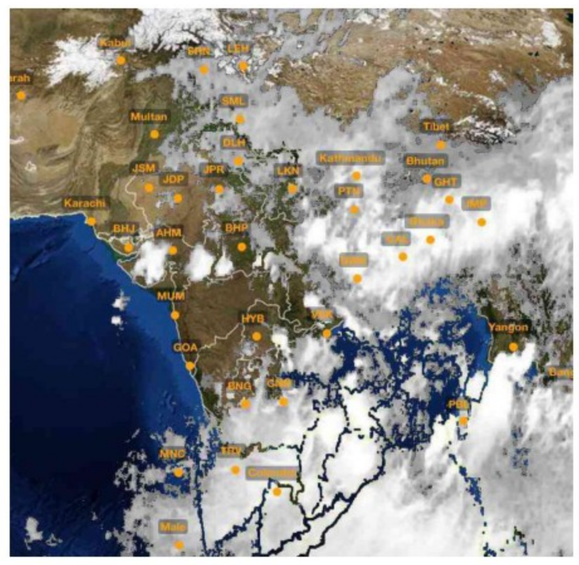
The cremation is expected to be performed at Ambasamudram in Theni district on Friday (July 25).

In a social media post, the Raj Bhavan said Governor R.N. Ravi was deeply pained by the passing of Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, a visionary whose profound contributions to clinical excellence, academic scholarship and philanthropy illuminated countless lives.

In his condolence message, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin underlined how Dr. Namperumalsamy wanted to ensure medical treatment to the poor and the downtrodden.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rain likely at isolated places over Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	25	34.0	25.6	Kozhikode	22	28.0	23.2
Ahmedabad	—	35.6	27.2	Kurnool	12	28.5	23.4
Aizawl	0.2	30.8	22.2	Lucknow	10	36.0	27.2
Allahabad	—	34.8	28.5	Madurai	—	35.5	26.0
Bengaluru	1	25.6	19.8	Mangaluru	79	26.1	22.1
Bhopal	6	26.0	24.4	Mumbai	48	30.6	25.3
Bhubaneswar	0.9	30.2	25.1	Mysuru	—	28.0	20.0
Chandigarh	1	35.9	26.0	New Delhi	9	35.9	25.0
Chennai	—	34.9	25.4	Patna	—	37.0	29.3
Coimbatore	—	31.5	22.0	Port Blair	—	30.4	27.8
Dehradun	3	34.3	24.8	Puducherry	—	34.2	25.5
Gangtok	0.3	27.4	19.7	Pune	16.5	26.5	23.4
Goa	51	27.4	24.0	Raipur	—	31.4	24.6
Guwahati	—	37.6	28.5	Ranchi	4	31.6	23.5
Hubballi	—	25.0	23.0	Shillong	—	26.9	19.4
Hyderabad	22	25.4	20.9	Shimla	10	27.8	20.2
Imphal	0.8	30.5	24.2	Srinagar	2	29.9	19.8
Jaipur	1	35.6	26.4	Thiruvananthapuram	9	28.4	23.0
Kochi	24	26.8	22.8	Tiruchi	—	34.7	26.6
Kohima	—	26.0	21.6	Vijayawada	2	28.8	25.0
Kolkata	10	34.4	26.6	Visakhapatnam	0.3	31.0	27.3

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.17	.60	.28	64	78	
Bengaluru	.10	.10	.33	28	116	
Chennai	.15	.20	107	65	89	
Delhi	.19	.60	.21	98	109	
Hyderabad	.35	.18	.45	83	92	
Kolkata	.9	.69	.28	27	39	
Lucknow	.40	.12	.7	109	83	
Mumbai	.26	.16	.24	65	76	
Pune	.10	.21	.35	47	47	
Visakhapatnam	.12	.73	.21	50	70	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 186 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 12

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS VARANASI-221004

Bid No.: E-23/2025-26 **E-Tenders** **Date : 23-07-2025**

E-Tenders are invited for and on behalf of the President of India for supply of following items. Only e-offer will be acceptable for which vendors must have class III Digital Signature and registration on **IREPS.** The details of tenders are in the following sequence:- **S.No., Tender No., (Due Date), Description and Quantity.**
1. 03251180, (20/08/2025, 15:00), COUPLING 4" FLEX, (PL No.17452879) 1198 Nos. **2.** 03251036C, (11/08/2025), Roof Assly Complete, (PL No.29170941), 127 Set. **3.** 03251009A, (13/08/2025), Complete Shell Assembly, (PL No.29176591), 117 Set. **4.** 03251063, (11/08/2025), Tube Cu 12.7mm, (PL No.29170096), 10810 MTR., Tube Cu 9.52mm, (PLNo.29170114), 16023 MTR. and Tube Cu 25.4mm, (PL No.29170321), 10649 MTR. **5.** 10241597A, (05/08/2025), Lube oil strainer ASM (PL No.16060118), 41 Nos. **6.** 10251132, (06/08/2025), Kit main bearing lower (PL No.16060830), 351 Nos. **7.** 10241303A, (22/09/2025), Kit of Turbo dowelling components (PL No.16081110), 67 Nos. **8.** 08251078, Open Tender, (05/08/2025), JOINT CENTER BONDED RUBBER as per Drg. No. 8234958 ALT Fd specn: 1. SPECIFICATION No. MISC-456. 2. PURCHASE SPECIFICATION No. MISC-558 Rev.2. (PL No.17456010), 11476 Nos. **9.** 08251050, Open Tender, (12/08/2025), GAUGE & BYPASS VALVE as per Drg. No. 10632529 ALT a specn: SPECIFICATION FOR CLEANING, SURFACE/RUST PREVENTIV, I-MARK AND PACKING CONDITIONS MISC:457, (PL No.17390310), 650 Nos. **10.** 08251061, Open Tender, (25/08/2025), FUEL PUMP MOTOR PART NO. 11815565 DRG. No. 11815565 ALT-NIL Spec: MISC:632 REV - R2, (PL No.11815565), 393 Nos. **11.** 11251384, (31/07/2025), EMPAGLIFIOZIN 10 MG TAB/CAP (PL No.82029611), 82290 Nos. **12.** Global Tender,11255196, (08/08/2025), INJ INSULIN ASPART PENFILLS 100 IU/ML 3 ML, (PL No.820196410020), 2100 Nos., INSULIN DEGLUDSC/INSULIN ASPART (1ML of SOLUTION CONTAINS 100 UNITS OF INSULIN DEGLUDAC 70% & 30% INSULIN ASPART), (PL No.820102540016), 450 Nos., INJ INSULIN DEGLUDAC 100 IU/ML IN 3ML PFP, (PL No.820205390015), 1000 Nos. **13.** Global Tender, 10241645A, (13/08/2025), Governor for 4500 HP, (PL No.16340036), 31 Nos. **14.** 09251135, E-16/2024-25, 01, Existing Due Date (23/07/2025), Revise Due Date (30-07-2025). **15.** 06251049, E-17/2025-26, 01, Existing Due Date (23/07/2025), Revise Due Date (30-07-2025). For details of above Tenders are available on Website **ww.blw.indianrailways.gov.in** and **www.ireps.gov.in**.

P.R./BLW/S-24 **PCMM.**

/blwvaranasi "website:- blw.indianrailways.gov.in"

South East Central Railway
E-Tender Notice

TENDER NOTICE NO: CAO/C/BSP/25-26/08, Dated: 21.07.2025,
(Open Tender) (Two Packet System)
Name of Work: "Request for Proposal (RFP) for Appointment of Authority Engineer for providing project management services for Construction of New Railway BG Electrified Line Between Rowghat-Jagdalpur (140 Km) of South East Central Railway", **Tender Value:** Rs. 18,67,10,141.06, **EMD:** Rs. 10,83,600.00, **Cost of Tender Document:** NIL, **Completion period of Work:** 36 (Thirty six) months, from the date of acceptance letter, **Date & Time of Tender Closing:** Up to 15:00 Hours on 23.09.2025, **Date & Time of Tender Opening:** 15:30 Hrs. on 23.09.2025. For further details related to tender document eligibility criteria and the complete details for the above work please contract office of the Chief Administrative Officer/Con/S.E.C.R/Bilaspur Pin:495004 or Dy.Chief Engineer (Con) /S.E.C.Railway/Bilaspur-Pin-495004 or Dy. Chief Engineer/ Con/I/ S.E.C. Railway/ Raipur- Pin-492009, Chief Project Manager/ West / Construction/ South East Central Railway, Nagpur - Pin:440001 or refer on our website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Dy. Chief Engineer/ Con
CPR/10/PR/190 S.E.C.Railway, Bilaspur

South East Central Railway @secrail

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Publication of Tender Notice No. 10-SNT-MYS-2025 Dated : 17-07-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

SL	Name of the work	Approx. Value
1	Interlocking of 04 Nos. of in Block Section in HMRDC section of Mysuru Division where TVU has exceeded 20000 at HMRDC section.	Rs.2,64,13,891.02
2	Provision of Integrated Passenger Information system at Ashokapuram and Pandavapura Railway Station.	Rs. 2,28,63,391.87

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 11-08-2025

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer
PUB/315/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Mysuru**

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

IDBI BANK
CIN: L65190MH2004GOI148838

IDBI Bank Limited, Retail Asset Centre
326, Junction of 6th Main-80ft Road
Indiranagar, Bengaluru - 560 038

Show Cause Notice

Notice is hereby given to the persons mentioned below that the proceedings for classification as fraud as per RBI Master Directions on Fraud – Classification and Reporting by Commercial Banks and select FI's dated July 01, 2016 ('Master Directions'), has been initiated and the Show Cause Notice issued by the Bank to the following persons have been returned un-served.

Name	Address	Designation
Shri Venkatesh C	3717, 12th Cross, 2nd Floor, 2nd Stage, Kumaraswamy Layout, Near Sardar Vallabhai Patel Park, Bangalore, Karnataka – 560 078.	Borrower
Shri Shashi Kumar R	197, 4th Cross, 9th Main, Near Manjunatha Kalyana Mantapa, F F Colony, Laggere, Bangalore – 560 058.	Borrower
Smt Manjula	197, 4th Cross, 9th Main, Near Manjunatha Kalyana Mantapa, F F Colony, Laggere, Bangalore – 560 058.	Borrower
S2 Homes	No.59, 3rd Main, 1st Stage, 100 Ft Ring Road, BTM Layout, Bangalore - 560 029.	Builder
S2 Homes India Private Limited	No.58/1, 2nd Floor, 80 Feet Road, Koramangala, 7th Block, Bangalore - 560 095.	Builder
Shri Chethan Kumar Prasanna Kumar	61, PVR Greens, Ebenezer International School Road, Behind APMC Yard, Bangalore – 560 100.	Partner S2 Homes & Director S2 Homes India Private Limited
Shri Nagesh Reddy	304, 17th Main Road, Shyamanna Garden, Sarakki Lake, Bangalore - 560 078.	Partner S2 Homes
Shri Prasanna Kumar Shreekanth	No.58/1, 2nd Floor, 80 Feet Road, Koramangala, 7th Block, Bangalore – 560 095.	Director, S2 Homes India Private Limited
Shri Obalareddy Somashekhar Reddy	No.29, T.C.P. Layout, Old Chandapura, Hosur Road, Bangalore – 560 100.	Partner S2 Homes & Director S2 Homes India Private Limited
Shri Vikas Biharilal Kukhreja	No.58/1, 2nd Floor, 80 Feet Road, Koramangala, 7th Block, Bangalore – 560 095.	Director, S2 Homes India Private Limited

The above persons, if they so desire, (a) may immediately collect the copy of the Show Cause Notice either in person or by duly authorized person by producing proof of identity, from the undersigned at the address as given above. (b) may Show Cause within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice as to why their name should not be classified as fraud in terms of Master Directions and subsequent action be taken.

Date: 25.07.2025 **Sd/-, Ajay K Peter**
Deputy General Manager

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda **Bank of Baroda**

Rajarajeshwari Nagar Branch (4106)
No. 874, 2nd Cross, 9th Main, BEML Layout, 4th Stage, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bangalore-560098. Ph:080-28612221,

NOTICE TO BORROWER
(UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002)

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 17.05.2025

To,
(1) Mrs. Latha Dasappa, No. 71, Srigandakavalu, Sunkadakatte, Bangalore - 560091.

Dear Sir/s,
Re: Credit facilities with our Rajarajeshwari Nagar Branch (4106)
We refer to **letter no. BOB/RRNAGAR/VP/23-24 dated 19-09-2023** conveying sanction of various credit facilities and the terms of sanction. Pursuant to the above sanction, you have availed and started utilizing the credit facilities after providing security for the same, as hereinafter stated. The present outstanding in various loan/credit facility accounts and the security interests created for such liability are as under:

Nature and type of facility	Limit (Rs.)	Rates of Interest	O/s as on 17.05.2025 (inclusive of interest up to 17.05.2025)	Security agreement with brief description of securities (please mention the details of security agreements and details of mortgaged property including total area and boundaries)
BARODA PROPERTY	Rs. 30,00,000/-	10.30%	Rs. 30,79,500/-	Site No. 240/41, old assessment Sy no. 42, New Assessment New Sy. No. 107/ 1A1, Khata no. 36916 Measuring 1 acres 10 guntas, situated at Mallathahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, measuring East to West: 15 feet North to South: 40 feet, totally measuring 600 Sq. Ft., and bounded on: East by: Site No. 240/40, West by : Remaining Portion of the same Site No. 41, North by: Road and South by : other Property.

(2) In the Term Loan agreement of debt dated **19.09.2023** you have acknowledged your liability to the Bank to the tune of **Rs. 30.00 lakhs** as on **19.09.2023** outstandings stated above include further drawings and interest upto **19.09.2023** Other charges debited to the account are Rs.. NA (date). The (date).
(3) As you are aware, you have committed defaults in payment of interest on above loans/outstandings for the quarter ended You have also defaulted in payment of instalments of term loan/demand loans which have fallen due for payment on **06.05.2025** and thereafter.
(4) Consequent upon the defaults committed by you, your loan account has been classified as non-performing asset on **06.05.2025(mention date of classification as NPA)** in accordance with the Reserve Bank of India directives and guidelines. In spite of our repeated requests and demands you have not repaid the overdue loans including interest thereon.
(5) Having regard to your inability to meet your liabilities in respect of the credit facilities duly secured by various securities mentioned in para 1 above, and classification of your account as a non-performing asset, we hereby give you notice under sub-section (2) of section 13 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and call upon you to pay in full and discharge your liabilities to the Bank aggregating **Rs.30,79,500/-** as stated in para 1 above, within 60 days from the date of this notice. We further give you notice that failing payment of the above amount with interest till the date of payment, we shall be free to exercise all or any of the rights under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the said Act, which please note.
(6) Please note that, interest will continue to accrue at the rates specified in para 1 above for each credit facility until payment in full.
(7) We invite your attention to sub-section 13 of section 13 of the said Act in terms of which you are barred from transferring any of the secured assets referred to in para 1 above by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of business), without obtaining our prior written consent. We may add that non-compliance with the above provision contained in section 13(13) of the said Act, is an offence punishable under section 29 of the Act.
(8) We further invite your attention to sub section (8) of section 13 of the said Act in terms of which you may redeem the secured assets, if the amount of dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank is tendered by you, at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction/inviting quotations/ tender/ private treaty. Please note that after publication of the notice as above, your right to redeem the secured assets will not be available.
Please note that this demand notice is without prejudice to and shall not be construed as waiver of any other rights or remedies which we may have, including without limitation, the right to make further demands in respect of sums owing to us.

Date : 24.07.2025 **Chief Manager & Authorised Officer**
Place : Bengaluru **Bank of Baroda**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
IN THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II AT BENGALURU
Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services
Debt Recovery Tribunal - II Karnataka (Bengaluru)
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001

O.A. No. 1234/2020

BETWEEN:
BANK OF BARODA **.....APPLICANT**
AND
1. **M/s. Supurva Hospitals Pvt. Ltd.** Registered Company, Registered Under Companies Act, Registered Office: No. 21/3, Vasanthapura Road, Konanakunte, Bengaluru-560062. **.....DEFENDANT NO. 1**
2. Sri. G Yogee Shankar, S/o Sri. J.D. Gowrishankar, R/at: No. 101, Plot 151, SiriPark View, 4th Cross, Ramanjaneya Nagar, Chikkallasandra, Subramanipura, Bengaluru-560061. **.....DEFENDANT NO. 2**
3. Dr. M.s. Raghabendra, S/o. Sri. Sathyanarayana Setty, R/at: No. 19, 6th Main, 9th Cross, R.K. Layout, Padmamabhanagar, Bengaluru - 560070 **.....DEFENDANT NO. 3**
4. Sri. Ritesh Khandilwal, R/at: Krishna R, No. 341, 7th Cross, Lakshmi Road, Shantingar, Bengaluru-560027. **.....DEFENDANT NO. 4**

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993

WHEREAS, the Applicant has instituted an application Under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against the Defendants for Recovery of a sum of **INR. 53,36,486.02 (Rupees Fifty Three Lakhs Thirty Six Thousand Four Hundred and Eighty-Six and Paisa Two Only)** together with current and future interest and other relief's. the above Defendants are therefore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through above Defendants are therefore,

hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorized agents in support of their defense to show cause within **30 days** from the date of publication or on **29.9.2025 at 10.30 A.M.,** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this tribunal on this 17 day of July 2025.
RIGISTRAR
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
BENGALURU

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY **Tender Notice No. 16/2025 Dt. 21.07.2025**

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Description in Brief	Quantity	Tender Due on
1	29251610B	Set of Kits for E-70 Brake Control Unit	29 Sets	07.08.2025
2	47245013	Main Air Compressor suitable for 25 KV 3 phase AC MEMU	4 Nos	07.08.2025
3	L1255261	3D adjustable 360 degree Rotational Driver seat	93 Nos.	07.08.2025
4	81251107	RTV silicon sealant	7020 Nos	11.08.2025
5	38251327	Side Frame Key for Cartridge (R.B) for Narrow and Wide Jaw	374133 Nos.	11.08.2025
6	30235002A	Flange mounted ball Transfer Unit	39790 Nos.	11.08.2025
7	33251324A	One Coach Set of Control Arms	134 Nos	13.08.2025
8	45255009	Roof Mounted Package Unit type-1	10 Sets	14.08.2025
		Roof mounted package unit complete including resilient mounting	30 Nos.	
		Supply testing and commissioning of RMPU	40 Sets.	
9	38251007	Polyrings-3 to Drg.no.AAL-021101	7316 Nos	18.08.2025
10	47255017	Supply of 25 KV AC MEMU Transformer 1050 KVA	2 Nos.	18.08.2025
11	75251054	Densified Thermal Bonded Polyester Block	9525 Nos.	18.08.2025
12	45255007	Double Ended Jumper Plug Assembly 500 Amps, 750 V	60 Nos.	20.08.2025
13	33255005	Complete WSP System for LHB coaches	5 Sets	20.08.2025
14	75251017	Pre-Laminated shaded compreg to size 2440 x 1220 x 3 mm	4178 Nos.	25.08.2025
15	29251611B	Kit for EP Relay valve FTRTIL Pt.No.790013105	160 Set	28.08.2025
16	38251614	Non Asbestos K Type Brake Block for Freight Stock	6750 Nos.	01.09.2025
17	30251272	Mirror Assembly to Drg. No. ICF/STD-6-3-008	11473 Nos.	01.09.2025

For Tender No. 56251089 of Notice No. 15/2025, the Due Date for opening of tender changed from 04.08.2025 to 11.08.2025

All Tender Closing Time : **Upto 10.30 hrs**
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Principal Chief Materials Manager,
PUB/325/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Hubballi**

Download the **UTS Moblie App** from **Google Play Store** for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | @SWRAILWAYHQ | @sw_railways

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General public are hereby notified that, my clients have entered into an Agreement to purchase the Schedule property from its Owner: **Sri.T.SOMASHEKAR,** S/o Late Thimmappa M.A., residing at House No.779-780-1, 23rd Main, 12th 'B' Cross, J.P.Nagar, Bengaluru-560078.

Apart from the said Owner, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title, interest or claim over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, sub-lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s or claims with the undersigned (along with the photocopies of the documents based on which they rely for asserting their rights), **within 10 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Khatha No.355/349/1 10/2 20/1, having E-PID No.4921066451 (carved out ofland bearing Sy.No.10/2, converted for non-agricultural purposes, vide Conversion Order bearing No.B.DIS.ALN.SR(S)31/1987-88 dated 17/08/1987, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore), measuring East to West: 71 feet and North to South: 60 feet, in all measuring 4260 Sq.feet, with a building thereon comprised of Basement, Ground plus three upper floors and Terrace, situated at Puttenahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, within the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Ward No.187 – Puttanahalli Ward and bounded on the:

East by : 24th Main Road
West by : Sy.No.10/1A
North by : Site No.19 in land bearing Sy.No.10/2
South by : Site No.20 in land bearing Sy.No.10/2.

Sd/- **S.F. GOUTAM CHAND**, Advocate,
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES,
No.60, 2nd Floor, Old Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560004

A slow revival

India's ties with China are on the mend, but mutual trust needs rebuilding

India's decision to restart issuing tourist visas for Chinese nationals is a strong signal that diplomacy over restoring ties rent apart by the LAC military standoff and Galwan clash of 2020 is moving smoothly. Since Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping met in Kazan last October, there have been a number of high-level meetings; the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) has been convened three times. The visa decision comes a month after China reopened the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra pilgrimage. The two sides have also agreed in principle to revive direct flights, and it is hoped visas for journalists will follow. A joint statement last month said that they would hold "certain functional dialogues" to discuss economic issues and trade, presumably to address India's restrictions on Chinese investment, and China's export restrictions on fertilizer and critical minerals. The export restrictions are causing considerable disruption in Indian technology sector companies, and even Japanese and South Korean automotive companies based in India have raised concerns over supply chain issues. The measures are expected to continue to roll out as preparations begin for the expected visit of Mr. Modi for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit in August. The WMCC held on Wednesday in Delhi discussed preparations for the next meeting of Special Representatives on the China-India boundary question, to discuss dispute resolution; China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs says that it is speaking to India about New Delhi's concerns over the mega-dam project on the Brahmaputra (Yarlung Tsangpo) in Tibet.

However, both sides have been muted about the reason for the rupture in ties in the first place. There has been little discussion over what prompted the Chinese PLA to transgress the LAC in 2020, which led to the Galwan clash, and what guarantees Beijing has given that this would not be repeated. While in December 2024, the government told Parliament that normalcy in ties could only follow the restoration of "peace and tranquillity in the border areas", it appears it is now prepared to continue to normalise other parts of the relationship without achieving troop de-escalation, dismantling of infrastructure in disputed areas and buffer zones that would lead to restoring patrolling to pre-2020 levels. Ties have also been impacted over Operation Sindoor, with revelations that the PLA was in lock-step with Pakistan's army. The government must realise that restoring mechanisms of bilateral ties are not by themselves sufficient for rebuilding trust. Sweeping key issues under the carpet, without some transparency on the path ahead, could put the whole process of reviving relations at risk.

Clean house

Septic tank desludging must be mechanised completely

Behind the hazardous cleaning deaths of 150 people in 2022 and 2023, a social audit of 54 of which the Ministry of Social Justice has tabled in Parliament, lies a deleterious business model. Local contractors had hired 38; only five were on a government payroll. The rest were public sector workers 'loaned' to private employers, obscuring liability. Progress on this front has lagged despite the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act 2013, court orders, Swachh Bharat advisories, and the 2023 National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) scheme. A 2024 Parliament reply said 57,758 workers were engaged in hazardous cleaning nationwide but only 16,791 PPE kits were supplied. Fewer than 14,000 had received health cards and only 837 safety workshops had been conducted in 4,800 urban local bodies. There are at least two bright spots, however. In Odisha, identified workers have PPE kits and access to mechanised desludging vehicles and Tamil Nadu has piloted sewer robots in Chennai to clean over 5,000 manholes. Technology and political will can thus deliver the desired results but little has reached most districts. Experts also flagged a near-complete lack of data on rural sanitation workers.

India's real problem is enforcement. Industry members have said most underground infrastructure can be cleaned robotically if capital subsidies and operator training expand, yet government tenders often solicit manual bids. Most emergency response sanitation units are paper tigers. Only ₹14 crore has been released so far under the NAMASTE scheme, insufficient to mechanise sewer cleaning in even one major city. In the event of a worker death, police routinely book the lowest ranking supervisor or classify the death as an accident. The Supreme Court has asked for offending contracts to be cancelled and monetary liabilities imposed on principal employers, but local bodies are still to notify such rules. Two-thirds of validated workers are also Dalits, yet rehabilitation packages rarely include housing or scholarships that might help families exit contemptible occupations. Women who still sweep dry latrines receive even less policy attention. Among other measures, urban local bodies must mechanise sewer-cleaning post haste, and make it a licensed trade, and operating without a valid certificate a cognisable offence. Loans for workers to operate the machines that replace manual entry should be upscaled and linked to guaranteed service contracts from municipalities. Finally, the national government should include septic tank desludging under the Swachh Bharat rural budget and extend NAMASTE profiling to gram panchayats.

The India-U.K. FTA spells a poor deal for public health

Dr. Chandrakant Lahariya

is a practising physician who has worked with the World Health Organization and other United Nations agencies for nearly 17 years

Dr. Arun Gupta

is a paediatrician and the lead of Nutrition Advocacy in Public Interest–India (NAPi)

India and the United Kingdom have signed their Free Trade Agreement (FTA), with the Union Commerce and Industry Minister, Piyush Goyal, and the British Business and Trade Secretary, Jonathan Reynolds, signing the deal on July 24, 2025, during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the U.K. On July 22, 2025, the Union Cabinet, Government of India had approved the FTA. Officially called the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement, this FTA was first announced on the conclusion of negotiations on May 6, 2025.

The India-U.K. FTA is good news from the economic perspectives of both countries. However, the FTA could pose a public health challenge for India. It will allow tariff-free entry – and thus lower prices – for U.K.-made food products such as biscuits, chocolates and soft drinks in India, many of which would fit into the categorisation of High Fat, Sugar and Salt (HFSS), posing grave long-term health risks. Cheaper prices supplemented by the expected aggressive marketing and advertising campaigns could prove harmful from the point of view of the health of citizens.

The case of Mexico

Concerns about the FTA and its adverse public health impact are not hypothetical. In 1992, when the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was signed between Mexico, the United States and Canada, Mexico made the mistake of not implementing robust public health safeguards. In the years that followed, Mexico experienced the following: a dramatic rise in imports of cheap, sugary drinks, snacks and processed foods; a surge in the consumption of HFSS food products, and a steep rise in diet-related diseases, obesity and diabetes. Mexico could halt the rise in the sale of HFSS products and manage lifestyle diseases only when it introduced stringent public health regulatory mechanisms such as a 'Soda Tax' and warning labels upfront in 2014.

From a public health viewpoint, the India-U.K. FTA is a concern for India. While the sale of unhealthy food products in the U.K. is relatively better regulated, the regulatory framework is sub-optimal in India. For example, the U.K. has implemented a ban on the advertising of HFSS products on television and online. The ban on such TV advertisements before 9 p.m., and a complete ban on paid online advertisements for HFSS products will come into effect on October 1, 2025. Similarly, the U.K.'s traffic light Front-of-Pack Nutrition Labelling (FOPNL) system uses a colour-coded system to help consumers quickly understand the nutritional content of packaged foods and drinks. For example, green indicates low levels of fat, saturated fat, sugar, and salt, amber indicates medium, while red indicates high. This system helps consumers make healthier choices.

India lacks binding restrictions on junk food advertisements targeting children; the existing regulations are not effectively enforced and routinely flouted. India relies on self-regulation through the Advertising Standards Council of India, which is an industry body. There is ample evidence that in the food sector 'industry self-regulation' is rarely and partially effective. There are a few regulations that prohibit misleading advertisements, i.e., the Advertising Code of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; however, regulatory bodies are often unable to identify misleading advertisements or, if done so, no penalty is assigned. The cartoon mascots on food products targeted at children on the one hand and celebrity endorsements on the other normalise unhealthy choices. The use of celebrities and sportspersons are key to these tactics. Many of these celebrities have privately acknowledged that they do not use the products which they publicly promote and advertise. Yet, such deceitful behaviour has never resulted in social or public outrage.

> The entry of cheaper junk food as a result of a free trade agreement can prove to be expensive in terms of public health

The problem with India's 'star rating'

In India, the issue of a mandatory FOPNL is pending for want of a decision on the right type of labels and amendments under the Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020. While evidence from various studies is that all types of warning labels help in reducing the consumption of HFSS, the most effective are the use of warning labels. Yet, Indian authorities are more interested in the use of "star rating", which could be misleading and less effective. Therefore, the process of introducing a warning system on packaged food is slow. For example, in September 2022, there were proposed amendments to introduce mandatory warning labels. Yet, three years later, the amendments remain on paper. After a Public Interest Litigation in April 2025, the Supreme Court of India has directed the authorities to make a decision on warning labels in a time-bound manner. Many independent subject experts believe that a part of the reason for the delay in the adoption of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)'s 2022 draft regulations for FOPNL is because of industry lobbying – this has diluted the proposals, opting for "star ratings" that are confusing instead of clear warnings such as Chile's black octagonal labels (when 'food products exceed certain thresholds of sugar, sodium, saturated fat, and/or calories').

India and many parts of the world are already facing a challenge of rising lifestyle diseases. In March 2025, *The Lancet* published two studies which indicated that obesity is on the rise across large parts of the world. Ultra Processed Food (UPF) and HFSS food items have witnessed a CAGR of 13.3%, in India, from 2011-21. Not surprisingly, the burden of lifestyle diseases such as obesity, diabetes and hypertension is rising at an alarming rate, in all age groups – more so in children and adolescents. A position statement on FOPNL in India, released in June 2025 and signed by 29 organisations, provided comprehensive evidence on the harmful effects of HFSS and UPF; it also advocated having warning labels being a mandatory part of HFSS and UPF packages.

Commercial activities, i.e., trade and treaties have been integral part of human life and the economic ambitions of nations. The FTAs have economic benefits and multiple rationales. However, getting cheaper junk food as a result of an FTA can be costly in public health terms. These apprehensions are founded in sound global evidence. In fact, in the last decade, global health agencies have begun talking about the Commercial Determinants of Health – the conditions, actions and omissions by commercial actors that affect health.

There is news that India may sign another deal, the India-European Free Trade Agreement Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA), involving Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland, in October 2025. Trade deals and FTAs are likely to be signed with some more countries. They could be good for the economy, but from the point of view of public health they could prove to be the Trojan horses of non-communicable diseases, unless sufficient safe-guards are implemented. There is a need to balance the economic benefits of FTAs with the need to protect public health and ensure restrictions on the marketing and labelling of food products.

It is still not late

Now that the India-U.K. FTA has been signed, the legal text will be drafted in the weeks ahead, and this is the opportunity for India to make the right move, it needs to act immediately to mitigate the FTA's public health impact. It is time for strong measures to regulate the advertising of HFSS, as also suggested in the Economic Survey 2024-25 and in line with the recent 'Dietary Guidelines for Indians', published by the National Institute of Nutrition in May 2024. The mandatory FOPNL in the form of warning labels should be implemented at the earliest. The proposed 'sugar boards' and 'Oil Boards' in schools are a good entry point to having 'health promoting schools. However, 'a more holistic approach of 'HFSS boards' needs to be considered. School meals and school college canteens should stop the sale of packaged and unhealthy food items. Protective measures must be implemented with urgency to counter the potential effects of current and future FTAs. Public health practitioners and health policymakers need to be more engaged on issues that are related to trade deals, and when it comes to ultra-processed food and high fat, salt and sugar food. It is an issue of public health, which affects nearly every Indian in every age group, and a subject that must be treated with urgency.

The fault lines in India's electoral architecture are visible

Shubhrastha

is a columnist, an author and Founder, The Churn

As the Election Commission of India (ECI) nears the completion of the first phase of its Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in Bihar (August 1, 2025), there has been a predictable cycle of contestation. Allegations of a disenfranchisement of the poor, minorities and migrants, are saturating political discourse. Opposition leaders have criticised the ECI's methodology as partisan and exclusionary, framing routine deletions as targeted assaults on vulnerable constituencies. Conversely, supporters of the exercise have invoked the need for sanctity of election rolls and dismissed such accusations as cynical politicking.

Both positions are inadequate and fail to interrogate the structural incongruities of India's electoral architecture. They conflate fixed notions of "ordinary residence" with an increasingly mobile citizenry and obscure the deeper problem. The law itself is poorly attuned to the socio-economic realities that it purports to govern. The ECI, though institutionally constrained, has been content to administer this dissonance rather than challenge it.

Historical context

The Representation of the People Act, 1950 was drafted in a post-colonial context of largely sedentary populations – over 82% rural and less than 8% migratory at the time. It assumed that most Indians lived and voted where they were born. The assumption has endured despite evidence to the contrary. While present laws privilege fixity as the basis of political membership in a constituency, India's internal migrants number over 450 million, making up 37% of the population. In Bihar, the proportion is even higher.

Bihar records the highest rate of internal migration in India – 36% of households report at least having one migrant. Over 20% of the working-age population lives outside the State at any given point in time. This distinction is more than semantic. It produces material exclusions. Census 2011 already documented that nearly 13.9 million Biharis lived outside the State. Today, the number is likely to be between 17 million to 18 million.

> The Bihar poll rolls revision only strengthens the point that the Election Commission of India must back alternative models of enrolment

According to Bihar's Chief Electoral Office, over 1.2 million names were deleted across the State this year. The majority were removed due to "non-residency" at the time of verification. In districts with high rates of out-migration such as Gopalganj and Sitamarhi, deletions approached 5%-7% of enrolled voters. These are not marginal figures and highlight the structural disenfranchisement of those whose economic precarity necessitates migration.

Two distinct concepts

Much of the public debate collapses two distinct concepts – citizenship and residency. Citizenship, as enshrined in the Constitution and the Citizenship Act, is of juridical status. One is either, or is not, a citizen of the Republic of India. Residency, by contrast, is a contingent and contextual condition, determining the constituency in which a citizen is enrolled to vote. The Representation of the People Act makes residency, not citizenship, the operative criterion for inclusion in a constituency roll. Millions of workers circulate between their natal villages and industrial zones elsewhere, caught in a liminal space – neither fully here nor there. For the migrant subject, disenfranchisement is not merely bureaucratic but existential – a quiet but potent signal of not belonging.

This predicament of legislative inertia is more than the result of administrative indifference. The ECI has inherited this mismatch between law and reality. Its institutional response has been of administrative minimalism – a rigid adherence to procedural compliance that often comes at the cost of substantive inclusion. Neither is impartiality neutrality in the face of structural disadvantage nor is "cleaning up" the rolls synonymous with justice if the very rules of residency systematically exclude certain classes of citizens.

Examples from abroad

Other democracies have confronted similar dilemmas with greater imagination. In the United States, an estimated 30 million-35 million voters reside in States other than their home precincts. Absentee and mail-in ballots allow them to remain registered in their home districts while voting from where they live. The Philippines facilitates absentee voting for its 1.8 million overseas workers – turnout rates exceed 60%. Australia deploys mobile polling stations in remote and transient communities, contributing to over 90% voter participation. These examples demonstrate that the perceived trade-off between roll integrity and inclusiveness is neither inevitable nor necessary. It is a function of institutional design and political will.

The ECI is correct to say that it cannot rewrite the law on its own. But it must aggressively advocate for reform. Its own experience in administering rolls in migrant-heavy States is evidence enough of the need for legislative review. At a minimum, it should pilot alternative models of enrolment and outreach within its existing authority.

Political actors are obviously complicit in perpetuating confusion. They prefer to instrumentalise disenfranchisement as a mobilisation tool rather than invest in educating voters and assisting them through claims and objections processes. Draft rolls are theoretically open to public scrutiny but literacy barriers, poor communication and burdens of migratory livelihoods make such procedural safeguards inaccessible to most. Surveys show that over 60% of voters in Bihar were unaware of the claims and objections window. Among migrants, awareness drops below 25%. Exhorting "voter responsibility" – as much of the official discourse does – risks bordering on victim-blaming.

To defend the ECI is important. But to demand more of it and of ourselves is imperative.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Maharashtra Bill

I write this letter as the Deputy Director (News), Directorate General Of Information and Public Relation, Government of Maharashtra. The Editorial ("Danger of thought", July 24) is a gross misrepresentation of a necessary and carefully considered legislative measure. The Maharashtra Special Public Security (MSPS) Bill is aimed at providing the legal framework for handling unlawful activities of unlawful organisations that are a part of the united front of banned CPI(Maoist) and other left-wing extremist organisations. The Government of Maharashtra is steadfast in its commitment to upholding both the security of its citizens and the democratic freedom enshrined in the Constitution. The MSPS Bill does not exhibit police thought. The legislation targets organisations whose actions, whether through the written or spoken word, signs, or other activities, "constitute a danger or menace to public order, peace and tranquillity". This is a critical distinction. The Bill is not aimed at commentators, critics, or political opponents engaging in legitimate dissent. It is designed to tackle the insidious, overground network of Maoist front organisations that engage in the recruitment, fundraising, and radicalisation of youth and professionals, thereby fuelling violence and threatening to undermine the constitutional order.

Varsha Andhale,
Mumbai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Should India relax its adoption procedures?

PARLEY

Aloma Lobo

Adoptive parent, a former chairperson of CARA, and an adoption counsellor

Smriti Gupta

Adoptive parent. She runs an NGO called 'Where Are India's Children?', which supports efforts to bring eligible children into the adoption pool

By analysing data from the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), *The Hindu* data team recently found that for every child free for adoption in India, 13 parents wait in line. The Supreme Court has directed CARA to take measures to streamline and expedite the adoption process. Should India relax its adoption procedure? Aloma Lobo and Smriti Gupta discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Priscilla Jebaraj**. Edited excerpts:

Many people believe that CARA's strict requirements and lengthy procedures for adoptive parents are responsible for the long waiting period for a child. Is this true?

Smriti Gupta: No, procedures are not the reason for these delays. The delays stem mostly from the fact that the number of people waiting to adopt a child is higher than the number of children who are legally free for adoption. There are children with special needs and older children who could be adopted immediately. But a majority of people wait to adopt a young child in the 'normal health' category. Most of the delay is the waiting time to be matched (with a child), so changing procedures is not going to do anything to solve the problem of delays.

Aloma Lobo: In the past, we could place children (up for adoption) almost immediately because there were very few parents (willing to adopt). The procedures are necessary. The checks and balances ensure that we don't have trafficking and improper placements. There have been cases filed in several parts of the world by children who were placed illegally, and we don't want that to happen here.

Apart from the procedures that parents must follow, there are also procedures involved in bringing children into the adoption pool. Are there ways to speed up this process?

SG: Only children in adoption agencies get evaluated for potential adoptability. I think children in child shelters should also be evaluated. Many children in these shelters, who were abandoned and orphaned, have been there for years and they could be brought into the legal adoption pool. Or at least, their cases should be looked at. This is not being done – because of apathy, lack of training, or lack of resources. That is where our focus needs to be – to bring eligible children into the legal adoption pool at each district level.

Our NGO works with the approval of the State Women and Child Development Department. When we approach these shelters, our first step is to digitise the data of all the children. Using our own open-source software, we have 22 categories, so we can analyse whether a child should continue to be in the shelter or should be brought into the legal adoption pool. We collect data on whether the child was abandoned. On whether the child has parents – and if yes, why the child is there. There are six reasons why a child could be in a shelter. So, we digitise all the data and then the system flags, let's say, 30 out of 100 children. Then our social workers work on those cases on a case-by-case basis, study the files, complete due diligence, and do the paperwork for those identified as potentially adoptable. Then the child is presented to the Child Welfare Committee of the district, which decides whether the child should be declared legally free for adoption or not.

Sisters who lost their parents during the Covid-19 pandemic play with their toys in Bhopal. AFP

The 2020 World Orphan Report estimated that there are 3.1 crore children in India who are orphans. We all see children on the streets. Should all these children be available for adoption? Why are there only 2,000-odd children in CARA's pool?

AL: The word 'orphan' is often loosely used. Many of these children have families. Or if they don't have parents, but may have extended families. Most of the children who come into the adoption stream as babies are those who were relinquished by unwed mothers or because they are girl children; they were not abandoned.

There are children everywhere on the streets. But are they all orphans? Or are they just children with families roaming the streets? Are they truly free for adoption? We need to evaluate that. There are also cases coming to light in several countries of children illegally taken away from their mothers or parents. The parents were told the children had disappeared or died whereas in reality they were given for adoption.

> The checks and balances ensure that we don't have trafficking and improper placements. There have been cases filed in several parts of the world by children who were placed illegally, and we don't want that to happen here.
> ALOMA LOBO

SG: To put it crudely, there cannot be that many parents who have passed away, to say there are millions of orphans. So what we are essentially saying is that there are that many parents who are not raising their children on a day-to-day basis. They have abandoned their children, or they have put their children in shelters, or they have relinquished them. And those children do need a second family, a permanent home. We need to examine the status of all these children. Are they being raised in a safe environment where they are wanted? And if not, what is the next step for them?

There have been multiple exposés of international adoption abuse. There is an acknowledgement that such abuse arose partly due to high 'demand' by adoptive parents, leading to the trafficking of children to ensure adequate 'supply'. What safeguards do we need to ensure that children are not treated as commodities in a 'demand-supply' situation, leading to trafficking?

SG: That is where the procedures come into play, and should not be relaxed. The checks and balances are needed for parents to make sure that people who are adopting children are prepared for it; that they are doing it for the right reasons. And they are needed for children so that only truly eligible children are brought into the legal adoption pool. There has been a lot of improvement over the last few years.

On the demand-supply concept: we work with shelters where children tend to be more than 6 years old. The age group you are talking about comprises babies and very young children. And in that case, we do hear of a grey area or black market. Children are not coming into adoption agencies and are not being placed for adoption. They are just being given away. So I would say the bigger risk is, they are not coming into the legal adoption system. I think that is where the trouble is. What you want to do for them – whether they are babies, 10 years old, or 15 years old – is to route them through the legal adoption pool. That is how you avoid all this.

AL: An important factor to remember is that we are finding a family for a child, not a child for a family. We need to go through these checks and balances in the best interest of the child, for the child's safety and secure placement. The fact is that children can be trafficked easily from nursing homes and hospitals; it happens quite a bit.

This idea that there are very few adoptable children in the CARA system also largely comes down to need for babies. There are many children waiting for families who are over the age of six, as well as children who have special needs. What needs to be done to increase their adoption rates?

AL: I think the worst repercussions come for children who have special needs. I've done many placements of children with special needs. I have a child with special needs. And I find that the quicker a child with special needs is placed, the better the child is. But there is a list called the immediate placement list, which I frown upon. There are parents who say, we can't wait 3-5 years for a baby, so we will take a child from the immediate placement list. And they take a child with special needs and they are not prepared for it. They don't understand that a child with special needs is a long-term commitment. And they simply return these children. So we must just stop and pause over here and think, should we really place them as "fast" as possible or should we really be child-centric here and be a little careful?

SG: From the time that I adopted a decade ago, I see a change in parents. I do see more children with special needs being adopted, more older children being adopted. But parents need more training and counseling. In international adoption, the agencies conduct a formal training that the prospective parents have to go through. We don't have an equivalent mandatory training for domestic adoptions here.

AL: The most important thing is to find out is the motivation to adopt. In the past, we did have several sessions of group counseling and individual counseling. But that is gone. Many of the home studies are like intake forms, which are not really adequate. If you compare them to foreign home studies, they are quite different.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

V.S. Achuthanandan, the man of the masses

Had it not been for him, many cases and issues deserving public attention and debate would have easily gone under the carpet

S. Anandan

Communist veteran V.S. Achuthanandan was 101 when he died early this week. He had been away from public life for six years, confined to his son's home in Thiruvananthapuram after suffering a stroke in 2019. But the outpouring of grief on the crowded streets of Kerala, as his funeral cortège travelled the 150-kilometre distance to his hometown Alappuzha, revealed that he was never out of the public mind.

The young and the old, who made a beeline to the hearse for one last glimpse of their beloved comrade, with '*Kanne Karale VS-ey* (V.S., our sight, our heart)' rending the air, had an unmistakable emotional connection to him. It is not every day that thousands of people across age groups tear up or wail inconsolably for a political leader not related to them.

V.S. belonged to that rare breed of politicians whose moral compass was shaped by the stifling social conditions of the pre-Independence era. Orphaned at a very young age, he dropped out of school after Class 7. He was at the forefront of agitations at the age of 17, mobilising coir workers to fight for their rightful wages in 1940. The days he spent organising peasants and paddy workers of Central Travancore to stake claim to their rights were marked by intense spells of starvation and toil, which made his life spartan. He would wash his only pair of clothes, a typical white *jubba* and *mundu*, and wear it before drying to avoid creasing. It was because of V.S.'s care for paddy and agricultural land that his government enacted the Kerala Paddy and Wetlands Act, 2008, to restrict the indiscriminate conversion of land. His development vision was tempered by his love for agriculture and nature, which got him brickbats.

If the media flayed him for his *vettiniratha samaram*, an anti-paddy land reclamation drive in the late-1990s, in early 2002, media persons accompanied a resurgent V.S., then 78, as he undertook an arduous trek to the hills of Mathikettan in Idukki to inspect for himself the extent of forests occupied by encroachers. Senior journalists who accompanied him said later that encroachers attempted to waylay him, but he was determined to proceed. The journalists, most of them young, couldn't keep pace with the septuagenarian Leader of the Opposition. He shared his food packets with everyone and asked them to catch their breath as he resumed the hike. Mathikettan Shola was subsequently declared a national park.

Those who worked with him closely vouched for his deep empathy and his ability to compensate for his incomplete schooling by keenly listening to experts. This led him to play a key role in the people's planning (decentralisation) programme, the introduction of free and open-source software, the expansion of the IT sector, the development of the national waterway-III, and the like. But it was his interventions for gender rights, secularism, environment, and against sex crimes and corruption endeared him to the masses. He was accessible, unostentatious, and grounded, while he lived a disciplined life personally.

With Pinarayi Vijayan emerging as a new power centre in the CPI(M) in Kerala, allegations arose of a 'media syndicate' tacitly supporting V.S. But V.S. himself had previously complained of the selective leaking of inner-party happenings to the media at the 2005 Malappuram State conference. He knew the power of the media and possessed inimitable presentation skills to gain media attention. A close confidante of his told me years later that V.S. never encouraged any activity against the party which he co-founded. "He was of unimpeachable integrity. This was why he was described as the conscience-keeper of the people. He was a Communist till the last breath," he said.

Had it not been for V.S., many cases and issues deserving public attention and debate would have easily gone under the carpet. A journalist can vouch for that.

anandan.s@thehindu.co.in

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

A reverse reclamation in Mumbai

Thick vegetation covers wet-leased mini buses at the Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST)'s Anik depot in Wadala, Mumbai. The buses have been lying unused for more than a year because of pending legal proceedings and arrears to contractors. EMMANUAL YOGINI

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 25, 1975

Water allowance for ICF staff suggested

New Delhi, July 24: The Committee on petitions of the Rajya Sabha has suggested grant of 'water allowance' to the employees of the Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Madras, in view of the expenses they had to incur in procuring water for their daily use.

In its 48th report presented to the House to-day, the Committee said the quantum of water allowance to be granted might be decided by the Government in a "sympathetic and realistic manner."

The Committee also recommended that the Government should ensure that adequate water supply was maintained in the factory area where employees had to work for long hours. The Government should take some long-term measures in the light of the present experience to ensure that the hardship caused by water scarcity in future might be minimised to the extent possible, the Committee said.

A petition signed by more than 2,000 ICF employees was presented to the Rajya Sabha on May 9 by Mr. Subramanian Swamy (JS) requesting that in view of the drought conditions prevailing in Tamil Nadu and lack of drinking water, an interest-free loan of Rs. 1,000 be granted to each employee so that new wells were dug and the existing ones deepened.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 25, 1925

The new electric scheme

The total power that is now being generated at Sivasamudram is about 32,000 H.P., the whole of which has already been taken up. The demand for additional power likely to be required during the next three years including that for small industries, fans, and other domestic purposes works out to about 12,800 H.P. After a careful investigation of the various schemes for the generation of the additional power required, Government have sanctioned necessary estimates for a VIIth installation, providing for the generation of an additional 14,000 H.P. at Sivasamudram Generating Station at a total approximate cost of Rs. 45.5 lakhs.

From Page One

India and U.K. ink trade agreement

"... And it's the best deal that India has ever offered anyone," Mr. Reynolds said.

The deal was announced in May, more than three years after negotiations were relaunched.

India and the U.K. also agreed to negotiate a reciprocal Double Contributions Convention (DCC). This agreement - when it comes into effect - would ensure that employers and employees working across borders, for a period of up to three years, would pay social contributions only in one country at a given time. The current exemption period is for one year.

The DCC had earlier been announced as a part of the trade deal in the U.K., where exemptions from social security payments are politically sensitive. The DCC is legally linked to the CETA, and must come into effect for the CETA to become operational, L. Satya Srinivas, a Ministry of Commerce bureaucrat, told *The Hindu*.

The Vision 2035 statement comprises several pillars: growth and jobs; technology (building on the Technology Security Initiative launched exactly a year ago); climate; defence and security. The two sides agreed to regular interaction between the two Prime Ministers and an annual review of how Vision 2035 was being implemented, conducted at the Foreign Minister level.

The sides also discussed global and regional issues during Thursday's talks. They committed to strengthening and reforming multilateralism, specifically at the United Nations and its Security Council, the Commonwealth, the World Trade Organization, World Health Organization, International Monetary Fund, and World Bank to "reflect contemporary global realities".

The U.K. is a permanent member of the UN Security Council and supports India's permanent membership to the body.

During a press briefing on Thursday, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri emphasised the significance of such a deal being struck in a challenging environment for trade, globally. He was responding to a question from *The Hindu* on whether the United States's retrenchment from the world and trade discussions of both the countries with the U.S. were brought up during Mr. Modi's and Mr. Starmer's bilateral talks.

Mr. Modi thanked Mr. Starmer for his support following the Pahalgam terror attack of April 22.

"We are united in the belief that there is no place for double standards in the fight against terrorism," Mr. Modi said.

"We also agree that the forces which espouse extremist ideologies should not be allowed to misuse democratic freedoms. Those who misuse democratic freedoms to undermine democracy itself must be held to account," he said.

The two countries would also enhance cooperation on the extradition of economic offenders, Mr. Modi said.

The U.K. is host to several individuals who are considered economic fugitives under Indian law, including jeweller Nirav Modi, and businessmen Lalit Modi and Vijay Mallya.

"We have continued to exchange views on peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific, the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and the situation in West Asia," the Prime Minister said, adding that India supported the "early restoration of peace and stability" and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries.

"Today's era demands development, not expansionism," he said.

Several industry bodies welcomed the trade agreement.

"It creates a strong foundation for deeper market access, regulatory cooperation, and next-generation partnerships between Indian and U.K. businesses," the Confederation of Indian Industry's Director General, Chandrajit Banerjee, said.

Supreme Court stays 2006 blasts verdict

"However, taking note of the submission made by the Solicitor General on the question of law, we are inclined to hold that the impugned judgment [of the HC] shall not be treated as a precedent in any other pending trials. Therefore, to that extent, we stay the impugned judgment," the court ordered.

This would indicate the top court has, in the interim order, not stayed the acquittal of the men, but only restrained the consideration of the High Court judgment as an authority to decide other MCOCA cases on trial. The top court issued notice to the former convicts on the State's appeal against the acquittal.

Justice Sundresh pointed out that some of the persons involved seemed to be Pakistan nationals. The State said they had committed the deed and left India. "They were not arrested," a State counsel informed.

In a brief mentioning of the case by Maharashtra regarding a technical hitch in the case records, Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai had remarked that a stay of a judgment of acquittal was "rarest of rare".

The Bombay High Court had concluded that the prosecution "utterly failed" to establish guilt beyond reasonable doubt. It had set aside the 2025 judgment of the Special Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA) court, which had awarded death penalty to five and life imprisonment to seven others.

On July 11, 2006, a series of seven bomb blasts occurred in the first-class compartments of seven suburban local trains of Mumbai. The coordinated explosions led to the tragic loss of 187 lives and left over 800 people injured.

61 lakh names may be out of Bihar's draft electoral rolls

Day before deadline, EC data show seven lakh yet to submit forms, 21.6 lakh dead, 31.5 lakh left the State, one lakh untraceable; claims of missing names or wrongful inclusions can be filed till Sept. 1

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

Over 61 lakh Bihar names may not figure on the State's new draft electoral rolls, which are to be published on August 1.

They include seven lakh people who are yet to submit their enumeration forms under the special intensive revision (SIR) process, a day ahead of the July 25 deadline, according to Election Commission of India data released on Thursday. There are also 21.6 lakh deceased electors, 31.5 lakh people who have permanently shifted from the State, seven lakh who have enrolled at more than one place, and one lakh who are "untraceable", the EC said in a statement.

The poll body said the enumeration forms of 7.21 crore electors (91.32%) have been received and digitised. All of their names will be included on the draft electoral rolls. The remaining forms are also being digitised, along with reports from booth-level officers (BLOs) and booth-level agents (BLAs) to facilitate their verification during the claims and objections period.

Enumeration forms of 7.21 crore electors (91.32%) digitised. All of their names will be included in draft rolls. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Bihar has 7,89,69,844 voters, according to the 2025 electoral rolls, which are now being revised through the SIR.

Accepted till Sept. 1

As per the SIR order, after the publication of the new draft electoral roll, copies will be provided to all 12 major political parties in the State. The draft roll will also be available on the EC's website.

The booth-level lists of electors who have not filled their forms, of deceased electors, and electors who have permanently migrated had already been shared with all political parties on July 20, so that they can point out any errors. Any elector or any political party can file a claim in case of any missing names or raise an objection in case of any wrong inclusion till September 1. Thus, inclusion of names on the electoral roll will continue till September 1.

CEC's take

Faced with Opposition attacks against the SIR process, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar asked whether the EC should allow the names of the dead and those who had migrated to other places to be included on the voters list.

Allowing ineligible people to vote, first in Bihar and later in the entire country, is against the Constitution, Mr. Kumar said. "On these questions, someday or the other, all of us and all the citizens of India will have to think deeply, going beyond political ideologies," he added, defending the SIR.

The Opposition has claimed that the move will disenfranchise crores of eligible citizens. Parliament remained stalled on Thursday as well over the issue.

Have 100% proof that EC is 'allowing cheating': Rahul

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Rahul Gandhi

Launching a scathing attack on the Election Commission of India (EC), Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday accused the poll body of "allowing cheating" in a constituency in Karnataka. He said he had "100% concrete proof" of malpractice.

Mr. Gandhi said the Congress would not allow EC officials to get away and was "going to come for them".

Unwarranted, says EC

Reacting to the Mr. Gandhi's statement, an EC spokesperson termed it "an unwarranted threatening statement" against a constitutional body, and pointed out that no appeal was filed with regard to the electoral rolls in Karnataka.

The spokesperson added that of the 10 election petitions filed regarding the conduct of the 2024 Lok Sabha election, no Congress candidate had filed any petition to challenge the outcome. "EC is wondering as to why such baseless and threatening allegations are being made against CEC and that too now," the spokesperson asked.

Speaking to presspersons, Mr. Gandhi alleged that the poll panel was not functional and was "not doing its job".

Asked about the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in Bihar and Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav's reported remarks that the option of boycotting the Bihar Assembly election was open, Mr. Gandhi, who leads the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, said his party had "concrete 100% proof" of the EC allowing malpractice in a seat in Karnataka.

"Not 90%, when we decide to show it to you, it is a 100% proof," he said.

DGCA issues four notices to Air India for safety violations

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued four show-cause notices to Air India over 29 violations, including non-compliance with crew rest norms, under-deployment of cabin crew on ultra long-haul flights, and lapses in pilot and crew training. The notices also flagged unresolved "systemic issues" and deficiencies in "safety management" despite previous regulatory interventions.

A total of 19 violations pertain to violations in pilot training and the timelines within which they have to complete refresher training programme where pilots operate commercial flights under the guidance of an instructor. These were observed for a 12-month period from July 2024 to June 2025.

The Hindu has reviewed the show-cause notices, obtained through industry sources. The violations were voluntarily disclosed by Air India.

Three violations concerning weekly rest periods for one first officer and two captains were recorded between June 2024 and June 2025.

"In its show-cause notices, the regulator has said that despite repeated warnings and enforcement action for non-compliance in the past, systemic issues related to compliance monitoring, crew planning, and training governance remain unresolved," an official said.

The DGCA has given Air India 14 days to respond to the notices.

An Air India spokesperson said in a statement, "...We will respond to the said notices within the stipulated period."

JD(U) leader questions SIR exercise in Bihar, says it will affect 'genuine' voters

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

MLA Sanjeev Kumar argues that migrants left out cannot afford to frequently come to Bihar from outside

After Banka MP Giridhari Yadav, another leader belonging to the Janata Dal (United) has expressed reservations about the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) process in Bihar.

Sanjeev Kumar, MLA from the Parbatta Assembly constituency, told *The Hindu* that voters who worked outside the State could be left out of the SIR exercise. "In my own Assembly constituency, many such names have been left out. The SIR should be conducted during festivals such as Holi, Deepavali and Chhath, when people working outside the State return. I am unable to contact my voters," Mr. Kumar said.

He said many migrant workers will not be able to afford the costs of returning to Bihar more than once or twice a year. Mr. Kumar also said many migrant workers are bound by contracts that prevent them from travelling frequently.

"It is very unfortunate that such migrant workers' names would be removed and I think the Election Commission should do something about this," Mr. Kumar said.

As per the EC's official statement on Thursday, "99% electors have already been covered" by the exercise and Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and Booth Level Agents (BLAs) had "reported names of 21.6 lakh deceased electors and 31.5 lakh electors who have permanently migrated..., while 1 lakh electors are untraceable".

However, Mr. Kumar said: "Even though the EC claims [to have covered] 99%, I am sure at least 1% of genuine voters have been removed. I think more time should have been given for this exercise. These are National Democratic Alliance [NDA] voters."

JD(U) MLC Khalid Anwar said the SIR should go ahead, but the EC was not the "final authority".

On Thursday, the JD(U) issued a show-cause notice to Giridhari Yadav for raising questions on the SIR. It said the comments caused "embarrassment" to the party and lent credibility to "politically motivated allegations made by the Opposition".

Opposition may boycott Bihar election, says Tejashwi

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

Leader of Opposition in the Bihar Assembly Tejashwi Yadav has indicated that Opposition parties might boycott the upcoming Assembly election in Bihar after taking feedback from people and alliance partners.

Earlier, the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader had taken on the Election Commission of India (EC), alleging that it has been working "at the behest of the BJP and ruling NDA".

"We will see what people want and what our allies say. If the State polls are conducted in a partial and manipulative manner where it is already decided who would win what number of seats, what is the use of conducting such an election?" Mr. Yadav told a news agency on Wednesday.

At UNSC, India says Gaza ceasefire a 'must', reaffirms support to Palestine

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

> A ceasefire must be put in place. All hostages must be released. Dialogue and diplomacy remain only viable paths...
>
> **PARVATHANENI HARISH**
> India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations

Raising concerns over the ongoing "humanitarian crisis" in Gaza at the United Nations Security Council, India said that a ceasefire is a "must", as is the release of all hostages. India's support to the Palestinian cause is "unwavering", said Parvathaneni Harish, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

Mr. Harish's statement was delivered during the UNSC's quarterly open debate on the 'Situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question' on Wednesday. It comes just a month after India abstained on a resolution at the UN General Assembly that called on Israel to implement an immediate ceasefire. The debate was convened by Pakistan, which holds the Security Council Presidency for July, and was chaired by Pakistan's Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar.

"Intermittent pauses in hostilities are not enough to address the scale of humanitarian challenges confronting the people, who grapple daily with acute shortages of food and fuel, inadequate medical services and lack of access to education," Mr. Harish said during his intervention, citing UN and WHO estimates that 95% of all hospitals in Gaza are damaged or destroyed, and that more than 6,50,000 children have had no schooling for over 20 months.

Changing position

"A ceasefire must be put in place. All hostages must be released. Dialogue and diplomacy remain the only viable paths to achieving these objectives. There are no other fixes or solutions," he added.

The MEA did not respond to a request for comment on why India's position appears to have shifted over the past month, with a stronger statement on the need for a ceasefire than before. In the UNGA vote on June 12, India was one of only 19 abstentions, while 12 countries voted against a resolution pressing Israel for an immediate ceasefire. In all, 149 countries voted for the resolution, while the Indian representative said only that releasing hostages and a ceasefire were "important to ameliorate the humanitarian situation in Gaza".

At the UNSC debate, where India was a special invitee, Mr. Harish also reiterated India's position that a "two-State" solution was the only "pathway to enduring peace" between Israel and Palestine.

"India shares historic and strong ties with our Palestinian brothers and sisters. We have always stood by them and our commitment towards the Palestinian cause is unwavering," he said.

Chinese surveillance gear banned for I-Day

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

In the wake of Operation Sindoor, this year's Independence Day celebrations will feature enhanced aerial monitoring and a complete ban on the usage of 'Made In China' surveillance equipment in and around the Red Fort in the national capital.

With Prime Minister Nadrendra Modi set to make his Independence Day address from the ramparts of Red Fort on August 15, the venue was taken over by the Ministry of Defence from July 15.

This year, more guests are being invited to attended the Independence Day celebrations in comparison to previous years, sources said.

Security agencies held a detailed discussion on possible security breaches through unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and unmanned aircraft systems (UAS).

APPEAL

Selvi **Shalini.P**, MRD No. 1309125, 10 years daughter of late Mr. Pushparaj admitted G.Kuppuswamy Naidu Memorial Hospital Diagnosed with T-LBL (T Lymphoblastic Lymphoma/Blood Cancer). She needs intensive Chemotherapy for 6 months. The Estimate Cost for Chemotherapy is approximately Rs.5,00,000/-

Kindly send donation however small by Cheque/ D.D/M.O Favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Shalini. P, **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A.Puram, and IFSC Code: SBIN0001855, You can Donate through Google pay No.9884607377, UPI Id: savepoorlives@oksbi. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

Save Poor Lives Registered Public Charitable Trust, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground floor, Old No.76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848**, Mobile: **9884607377** Email: **savepoorlives@gmail.com.** Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

Committee to look into 'legal structure' for IMD

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has constituted a committee, comprising members from various organisations, for "formulating a legal framework" pertaining to meteorological services in India and the role of agencies involved in it, Minister Jitendra Singh said in a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday.

The move results from a long-standing mandate of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), of which India is a member, requiring all member countries to develop legislation, Act or policy for hydro-meteorological services. "The committee constituted by the MoES will take cognisance and examine the legislation carried out in this regard in other countries," he said.

Despite being the official source of monsoon forecasts, cyclone warnings, and all aspects involving weather, besides being entirely government-funded, there is no single law that defines the structure, function and responsibilities of the India Meteorological Department, which was established during the colonial period. The IMD is a subsidiary under the MoES.

Opposition to opt for consensus candidate in V-P election unlike 2022

Trinamool and AAP abstained from the 2022 election after Congress went against the broader agreement and fielded party veteran Margaret Alva; 55 members stayed away from that election

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Proceedings of the Rajya Sabha under way during the Monsoon Session of Parliament on Thursday. The Vice-President of India holds the post of ex-officio Chair of the Rajya Sabha. SANSAD TV

The Election Commission is expected to notify the vice-presidential election any time now, but the Opposition parties have not begun a formal conversation on their position in the election. However, there is an informal consensus building in the Opposition camp towards the idea that the mistakes made in the 2022 contest should not be repeated.

In 2022, going against the broader agreement, the Congress fielded its veteran leader Margaret Alva. Miffed at not being consulted, the Trinamool Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) decided to abstain from the election, instead of voting for either Ms. Alva from the Opposition camp or Jagdeep Dhankhar from the government side. Announcing the Trinamool's decision to abstain from the election, the party's national general secretary, Abhishek Banerjee, had said, "If you want to keep Opposition unity, you have to rise above ego and self-interest." A total of 55 members abstained from the election and Mr. Dhankhar won it by 346 votes.

'In better position'

Voices from both within and outside the Congress articulated that the selection of Ms. Alva was a mistake since it split the Opposition votes. But even with the AAP and the Trinamool support, it still did not have the requisite numbers.

"This time the contest is keener, we have better numbers. It is time to ensure that we keep our numbers intact," a senior Opposition leader said. The difference in the votes between the two sides, if there is 100 per cent voting, is a little over 150.

The Opposition, however, will wait for the government to declare its candidate before beginning consultations on who to field. With the upcoming Bihar Assembly election, which is expected to see a heated contest between the ruling National Democratic Alliance and the Opposition's coalition, *Mahagatbandhan*, the Opposition is clear that it won't concede the position without putting up a fight.

The Opposition is looking for a candidate who, if not popular, is acceptable to all sides equally.

BJP begins search for the next Vice-President, party insider could make the cut

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

Sudden move: Jagdeep Dhankhar with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister Rajnath Singh in New Delhi. FILE PHOTO

The initial shock over the resignation of Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar appears to be giving way to concerns within the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) over his possible successor.

Senior coalition leaders indicated that the next nominee may be a Bharatiya Janata Party leader from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's close circle, with the political acumen required to manage proceedings in the Rajya Sabha.

Mr. Dhankhar, who became Vice-President following a term as Governor of West Bengal, had earlier been associated with the Janata Dal and the Congress. Senior BJP leaders said a shortlist was being prepared, largely comprising BJP leaders, particularly those with gubernatorial experience.

The NDA partners have been informally conveyed that the replacement may be from the BJP.

Short list of candidates

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi will only be back by July 26th after the conclusion of his visit to the U.K. and the Maldives. By that time we will have a short list ready, of possible candidates," a senior BJP leader said.

Tensions between Mr. Dhankhar and the government had reportedly been simmering, especially over his public remarks on the judiciary and other institutions. The Government managers felt these comments were avoidable, particularly at a time when the Centre was seeking to move beyond the confrontational legacy of the National Judicial Appointments Committee Bill.

"The government also felt that he could have used more tact in dealing with issues in the Rajya Sabha, while at the same time making sure that the government had its say," the senior BJP leader said.

According to informed sources, Mr. Dhankhar was reportedly aggrieved by the government's lack of visible support when the Opposition moved a motion to remove him from the post – unprecedented for a presiding officer of the Rajya Sabha. While Deputy Chairperson Harivansh dismissed the motion, no senior Union Minister publicly defended Mr. Dhankhar, a development that reportedly left him disappointed.

The Election Commission has said that it has begun preparations for the election of the next Vice-President.

The government is hopeful that a new appointment will help bring closure to what it sees as a dramatic chapter for the post.

Shah to move notice to extend President's Rule in Manipur

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The State was placed under President's Rule on February 13 following resignation of CM Biren Singh

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is likely to move a statutory resolution in the Rajya Sabha in the ongoing Monsoon Session of Parliament to extend President's Rule in Manipur for another six months.

According to the Rajya Sabha bulletin, Mr. Shah's notice was admitted for Thursday but the House was adjourned around 2.15 p.m. following protest by the Opposition against the Election Commission's special intensive revision of electoral rolls in Bihar.

The statutory resolution notice said, "That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation dated the 13 February, 2025 in respect of Manipur, issued under Article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from 13 August, 2025."

Manipur was placed under President's Rule on February 13 following the resignation of Chief Minister N. Biren Singh on February 9. As per Article 356(3) of the Constitution, President's Rule, which is enforced through the Governor's office, usually lasts six months and can be extended every six months with the approval of Parliament for up to three years.

The Hindu had reported on July 17 that Central rule is likely to be extended for another six months in the State as government focusses on opening of national highways and recovery of looted police weapons.

The ethnic violence between the Kuki-Zo and Meitei people that erupted in the State on May 3, 2023 has claimed the lives of 250 people and displaced more than 60,000 people from their homes.

Meitei people who live in the valley have not been able to access the highways since the violence began.

Protests continue in Lok Sabha, while brief calm prevails in the Rajya Sabha

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Speaking out: Opposition MPs protesting in the Lok Sabha during the Monsoon Session of Parliament on Thursday. SANSAD TV/ANI

The Rajya Sabha functioned briefly to bid farewell to the retiring members but Opposition protests continued in the Lok Sabha over the special intensive revision of electoral rolls in Bihar, disrupting the proceedings for the fourth consecutive day.

Soon after the Lower House sat for the day, Speaker Om Birla had to adjourn proceedings when Opposition members raised slogans, entered the Well of the House and also displayed placards. Addressing senior Congress leader K.C. Venugopal, Mr. Birla said it was not the culture of his party to indulge in sloganeering in the House and lamented about crores of tax payers' money being wasted.

As the din continued, the Speaker adjourned the proceedings until 2 p.m. in less than seven minutes.

When the House reassembled, Krishna Prasad Tenneti, Telugu Desam Party member who was chairing the proceedings, urged members to participate in the discussion on a Bill which seeks to provide seats for Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the Goa Assembly.

Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal questioned why the Opposition was not allowing a discussion on the Bill that seeks to give tribal representation for the first time in the Assembly. As protests continued unabated, the proceedings were adjourned for the day.

Farewell to MPs

The Rajya Sabha had a brief period of calm, as the House bid farewell to six retiring members from Tamil Nadu – M. Mohamed Abdulla (DMK), N. Chandrasegharan (AIADMK), Anbumani Ramadoss (PMK), M. Shanmugam (DMK), Vaiko (MDMK), and P. Wilson (DMK). Mr. Wilson has been re-elected and will be returning to the Upper House.

Earlier in the day, Deputy Chairman Harivansh had announced that he had received 30 notices under Rule 267 to suspend the day's business; the majority of these notices were demanded for a debate on the ongoing special intensive revision of electoral rolls in Bihar.

Shortly after the farewell addresses ended, the Opposition resumed its protest demanding a debate on SIR forcing an adjournment till 2 p.m. When it reconvened post lunch, the Carriage of Goods by Sea Bill, 2025 was taken up for discussion. AIADMK MP M. Thambidurai, who could not complete his speech on the Bill on Wednesday amid protests, was asked to continue by the Chair, Bhubaneswar Kalita.

Raised slogans

Opposition MPs continued their protest and raised slogans demanding that the SIR exercise be stopped. Several MPs trooped into the Well of the House, while many others were standing.

After Mr. Thambidurai, Ayodhya Rami Reddy of the YSR Congress Party started speaking on the Bill. However, the protests continued and Opposition MPs came close to the member's seat, raising slogans 'SIR *wapas lo*' (roll back SIR). Amid the din, the Chair adjourned the House for the day.

Ujjwal Deorao Nikam (nominated) also took oath as a member of the Rajya Sabha on Thursday.

INBRIEF

Utpal Kumar Singh to take over as CEO of Sansad TV

Utpal Kumar Singh, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, is set to replace Rajit Punhani as the CEO of Sansad TV, a public broadcaster that telecasts parliamentary proceedings. "The Governing Council of Sansad TV decided that Shri Utpal Kumar Singh, IAS (retd), presently holding the charge of Secretary General Lok Sabha, will additionally discharge the function of the Sansad TV with immediate effect and until further orders," an order issued on Wednesday said.

Bhagwat meets Muslim leaders to promote dialogue

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat held a closed-door meeting with Muslim religious leaders in Delhi on Thursday. Organised by Ahmed Ilyasi, chief imam of the All India Imam Organisation (AIIO), the meeting saw the participation of around 60 Muslims clerics, chiefs of mosques and intellectuals from the minority community from across the country. The discussion at Haryana Bhavan lasted for over three hours. Mr. Bhagwat and Muslim leaders exchanged ideas to promote "communal harmony" and "end hatred".

'No plan or intention to make changes to Preamble'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The government has "no current plan or intention to reconsider or remove the words 'socialism' and 'secularism' from the Preamble of the Constitution", Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal informed the Rajya Sabha on Thursday. The Minister said this in a written response to a question posed by Samajwadi Party MP Ramji Lal Suman.

SC working with govt. to clear pending judicial appointments to High Courts, says Chief Justice

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice B.R. Gavai

Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai on Thursday said the administrative side of the Supreme Court is engaging with the government to clear the collegium recommendations for judicial appointments to the High Courts, pending for months together.

"We are pursuing on the administrative side... some names are being cleared," Chief Justice Gavai said.

The Chief Justice expressed concern about some of the fine young lawyers withdrawing their names recently.

He was responding to an oral mentioning made by senior advocate Arvind Datar and advocates Prashant Bhushan and Amit Pai for an early hearing of petitions highlighting the government's unexplainable delay and unilateral segregation of names recommended by the collegium. He listed the case for hearing after two weeks.

The Chief Justice referred to how two lawyers, one from Delhi and the other practising in Mumbai, withdrew their consent to judgeship.

Earlier in July, the Campaign for Judicial Accountability and Reforms, an NGO, had issued a public statement about the withdrawal of consent by advocate Swetashree Majumder, who had been recommended for the Delhi High Court Bench a year ago by the Collegium. The government had been sitting on her name without assigning reasons. Fed up, the lawyer had bowed out.

Similarly, advocate Rajesh Dattar, in Mumbai, had found that his name was segregated by the government. His juniors in the legal profession were appointed additional judges of the Bombay High Court, while no action was taken about his appointment. The Chief Justice agreed with Mr. Datar and Mr. Bhushan that these were "some of the finest lawyers" who would have come to the Bench.

Mr. Datar said the government has continued to stall appointments despite the timelines set by the court in judgments submitted. "There are names recommended in 2019 and reiterated in 2021 and 2022 still pending with the government," he said.

371 judge posts vacant in HCs: Law Minister

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

Amid the backlog of cases, a total of 371 posts of judges are vacant in various High Courts, and the High Court Collegiums have not sent any recommendation yet for more than 50% of these vacancies, Minister of State for Law Arjun Ram Meghwal told the Rajya Sabha on Thursday.

He said this in a written reply to a question raised by Congress MP Mallikarjun Kharge, who had asked the details of pending recommendations made by the Supreme Court Collegium regarding appointment of judges to various High Courts. Mr. Meghwal said 178 proposals for appointment of High Court judges are at various stages of processing between the government and the Supreme Court Collegium. The recommendations against 193 vacancies are yet to be received from the High Court Collegiums.

In HCs, against the sanctioned strength of 1,122 judges, 751 are working and 371 posts are vacant.

INBRIEF

India sends team of burn injury specialists to Dhaka

India on Wednesday sent a medical team to assist Bangladesh as it deals with the aftermath of the crash of an Air Force jet that killed dozens of students and teachers at the Milestone College in Dhaka. More than a hundred people were injured as the aircraft crashed on the college packed with students on Monday. Randhir Jaiswal, official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, announced that two burn injury specialists and a nursing assistant from Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi reached Dhaka on Wednesday to help the injured who have been admitted in nine different hospitals in Dhaka.

Bring down age of consent from 18 to 16, top court told

Amicus curiae Indira Jaising urged the Supreme Court on Wednesday to read down the statutory age of consent from 18 to 16. Ms. Jaising, who is assisting the top court in *Nipun Saxena vs Union of India* case, has filed her submissions challenging the blanket criminalisation of sexual activity involving adolescents aged 16 to 18 under the POCSO Act, 2012 and Section 375 of the IPC. She argued that the current law criminalises consensual relationships among adolescents and violates their constitutional rights. She called for a review of the mandatory reporting obligations under Section 19 of the POCSO Act which deter adolescents from seeking safe medical care. PTI

'Minor' increase in sick leaves by Air India pilots since crash

There was a "minor increase" in sick leaves by Air India pilots in the aftermath of the June 12 Air India crash, the government informed Parliament on Thursday. "Air India reported a minor increase in sick leaves by pilots across all fleets in the aftermath of the AI-171 accident," Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol informed the Lok Sabha. He was responding to a question from BJP MP Jai Prakash on whether there was mass sick leave by airline's crew after the crash. The Minister provided data for June 16, four days after the crash, and said 112 pilots reported sick. These included 52 Commanders and 61 First Officers.

66 Maoists with a total bounty of ₹2.54 cr. surrender in Bastar

As many as 66 Maoist cadres, carrying a combined bounty of ₹2.54 crore, surrendered in five districts of Chhattisgarh's Bastar division on Thursday. As many as 25 of them surrendered in Bijapur while 15 surrendered in Dantewada, said Bastar Inspector-General of Police P. Sundarraj. In the other districts, 13 surrendered in Kanker while eight and five Maoists surrendered in Narayanpur and Sukma respectively. The cadres include one sub-zonal committee member carrying a reward of ₹25 lakh and four divisional committee members. Over the past 18 months, 1,570 Maoists have surrendered in the Bastar division, the police said.

PM's Maldives trip signals improved ties

Narendra Modi to attend the island nation's 60th Independence Day celebration in Male tomorrow; several agreements likely to be signed; there has been improvement in ties between the countries since September 2023, when Mohamed Muizzu used the 'India out' plank during his poll campaign

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

When Prime Minister Narendra Modi attends the Maldives's 60th Independence Day celebration in capital Male on Thursday, his presence will mark a major turnaround in ties between the neighbours – something that neither side might have foreseen 18 months ago.

Although Mohamed Muizzu used the 'India out' plank – taking off on a campaign by former President Abdulla Yameen – for his successful presidential bid in September 2023, there was a notable thaw in the Maldives's India ties within months, seen in the meeting of the leaders of both countries on the sidelines of the UN COP-28 climate summit in Dubai in December 2023, where they agreed to bolster economic partnership and people-to-people ties.

Ups and downs

However, early 2024 saw a rapid decline in the relationship again, with junior Maldivian Ministers making derogatory remarks against Mr. Modi in connection with his Lakshadweep visit, and a shrill, apparently well-coordinated "Boycott Maldives" campaign that dominated Indian social media soon after, threatening the country's tourism-reliant economy.

Returning from a five-day visit to China in January 2024, President Muizzu told local media that the Maldives might be a small island nation, but that did not allow others to "bully" the country and that the Maldives "is not in anyone's backyard". In March 2024, Mr. Muizzu said no Indian military personnel, not even those in civilian clothing, would be present in his country after May 10, 2024. By early May last year, India fully pulled out its troops from the Maldives, meeting the deadline set by President Muizzu, with a compromise of replacing them with technical personnel.

Subsequently, ties saw an improvement, paving the way for President Muizzu's state visit to India in October 2024, even as the island nation was struggling with its debt burden and widening fiscal deficit that some feared might push it towards default.

Diplomatic meeting: Narendra Modi and Mohamed Muizzu during the COP28 climate summit in the UAE on December 1, 2023. PTI

After the two leaders met in New Delhi, India signed a crucial currency swap agreement – available until 2027 – with the Maldives for $750 million, to help the island nation tide over its current foreign currency crunch. The two countries also agreed on a "vision statement" for a "comprehensive economic and maritime security partnership" going forward. In May 2025, India rolled over a $50-million Treasury bill to support the country to bolster its reserves and stabilise its economy.

Today, Indian flags have been put up across Male, sources based in the capital city told *The Hindu* on Thursday, to welcome India's Prime Minister, who is scheduled to arrive on Friday morning from the United Kingdom. This is amid considerable social media criticism of the Maldivian government from detractors. Mr. Modi is the first head of state to visit the Maldives since President Muizzu assumed office in November 2023.

'Hard work'

"It's a question of working hard at a relationship," Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said, in a special media briefing on Tuesday, referring to the positive shift in India-Maldives ties. Observing that "there will always be events that will impact or try to intrude on the relationship", he pointed to the "kind of attention" that has been paid to the relationship, including at the highest levels.

"We have continued to work at it ...we have also been in very close discussions with our partners in the Maldives to provide clarity and assurances about what it is that we want to do bilaterally, and I think the result is there for all to see," he told reporters in New Delhi.

Describing the joint vision for an "India-Maldives comprehensive economic and maritime security partnership" as the "guiding framework" for bilateral ties, Mr. Misri said New Delhi has seen nearly half-a-dozen Ministerial-level visits from the Maldives in the first six months of this year. During Mr. Modi's visit a set of agreements across sectors is expected. The two sides are likely to agree on the terms of reference for the Free Trade Agreement under negotiation. Agreements in new areas of cooperation, including renewable energy, fisheries, digital infrastructure are to be firmed up.

Prior to Mr. Modi, former Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena and former Prime Minister of Pakistan Nawaz Sharif participated as Guests of Honour in the Maldives's Independence Day events in 2015 and 2017 respectively.

Dalits, Adivasis, and women at core of new cooperation policy of Centre, says Shah

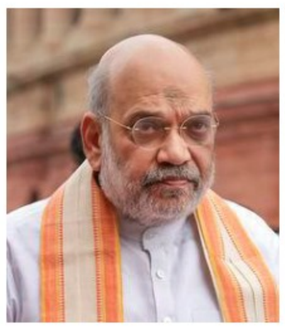
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Aiming to connect 50 crore people with the cooperative sector, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah unveiled the National Cooperation Policy, 2025 on Thursday.

Dalits, Adivasis and women are at the core of the new cooperative policy, Mr. Shah said. This is only the second such policy for the sector since Independence, with the first being introduced in 2002 by the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government.

Expressing confidence that India will become the third largest economy by 2027, the Minister emphasised the need for the inclusive development of 130 crore people, noting that it was the cooperative sector that had the potential to change the lives of people.

"The 80 crore people who have got cylinders and houses from the government are wondering what to do next? Many people received electricity for the first time. They have a vacuum in their life and now they aspire for an iron [for clothes] or a scooty... but they do not have the capital. Only the cooperative sector can help them achieve their aspirations," Mr. Shah said.



Amit Shah

This is only the second such policy for the sector since Independence, with the first introduced in 2002, Shah says

The Home Minister said that the policy defined six pillars to achieve the set goals for the cooperative sector – strengthening the foundation, promoting vibrancy, preparing cooperative societies for the future, enhancing inclusivity and expanding reach, expanding into new sectors, and preparing the younger generation for cooperative development.

The Ministry of Cooperation has prepared a detailed plan for sectors such as tourism, taxi services, insurance, and green energy, Mr. Shah said, adding that a start will be made in the taxi and insurance sectors in a very short time.

The profits generated through these units would ultimately reach the members of the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) at the rural level.

He emphasised that the goal was to build a large and robust cooperative ecosystem and establish the belief that cooperation could be a vital instrument in development for future generations.

ED searches over 35 places in case involving Reliance Group led by Anil Ambani

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday conducted searches on over 35 premises, covering 50 companies and more than 25 individuals, in connection with a case involving Anil Ambani's Reliance Group companies, agency sources said.

The ED investigation is based on two FIRs registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation. "Other agencies and institutions also shared information with the ED, such as the National Housing Bank, SEBI, National Financial Reporting Authority, and Bank of Baroda," a source said.

'Gross violations'

"Preliminary investigation by the ED has revealed a well-planned and thought-after scheme to divert/siphon off public money by cheating banks, shareholders, investors and other public institutions. The offence of bribing bank officials including the promoter of Yes Bank Ltd. is also under scanner," the source said. An alleged illegal diversion of a loan of around ₹3,000 crore from Yes Bank between 2017 and 2019 is being examined.

Digging deep: ED officials during a search at industrialist Anil Ambani's office in Mumbai on Thursday. PTI

"The ED found that just before the loan was granted, the Yes Bank promoters received money in their concerns," the source added. The ED said "gross violations" were found in Yes Bank's loan approvals to Anil Ambani's Reliance Group companies. "Credit Approval Memorandums were back-dated and investments proposed without any due diligence or credit analysis in violation of the bank's credit policy."

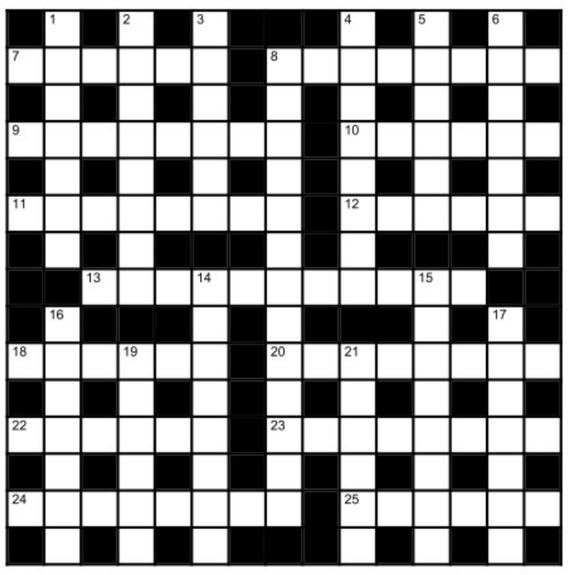
The ED has alleged that the sanctioned loans were further diverted to various group and shell companies, in contravention of loan terms. Red flags identified include loans extended to entities with weak financials, absence of proper documentation, inadequate due diligence, common addresses and directors among borrowers, and diversion of funds to promoter group entities.

TH CROSSWORD + 14546

(set by Pixie Dust)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

7 Partly miss our celebrity author (6)
8 Drunk and beaten (8)
9 Capital of Finland's impressing and enchanting (8)
10 Oppose somewhat difficult sis, erratically backtracking (6)
11 To raise money, boy is married the next day (8)
12 Look Noel lay oddly withdrawn (6)
13 Broken nails, yet used often substantially? (11)
18 Hired help's extremely lonesome here (6)
20 Ruled as monarch over decades, finally stepped down (8)
22 Stu and Zan missed last letters in verse (6)
23 Accommodating Bill, performing without Charlie around 3rd of September (8)
24 Log from Spooner's craft corner? (8)
25 First signs of respite is seen in North Gujarat revolt (6)

Down

1 Thus build home with wife by hook or crook (7)
2 Short path to hills in vehicles (8)
3 Major sore in pants (6)
4 Rain check? (8)
5 Almost bare model (6)
6 Boisterous teens, extremely lively in a nervous way (7)
8 Market war at peak? (4-5,4)
14 Leave crazy conservative missing the last lift (8)
15 Most fair polygraph picked up (8)
16 Notices corrupt department (7)
17 Shrinking wife leaves following the French in tendency (7)
19 Small animals pose in disguise (6)
21 In audition looks fixedly at steps (6)

SUDOKU

				8	7	2		4
					4			
4			1			8	6	
	8		9				1	5
1	3	7				9	4	8
5	4				1		3	
	2	3			5			9
			7					
9		8	4	3				

No.SS6591 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

C	B	I			C	T	O	
BREAST		CLASSIFY						
O	C	S	O	R	H	F		
SOUTHERN		NAILED						
K	E	L	S	I	R	R		
TERRIFIC		VETOES						
D	I		I	A		D		
WALKSOFLIFE								
N		I	U		I	S		
VACANT		STRONGLY						
T	L	C	N	A	A	E		
PUNISH		EXPANDED						
R	E	E	S	I	C	P		
WARNINGS		DIETER						
L	S	S		S	S	R		

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

7	2	1	3	6	8	5	4	9
3	9	6	5	4	2	1	8	7
4	5	8	1	9	7	6	2	3
2	7	4	8	1	5	3	9	6
6	8	5	9	2	3	7	1	4
9	1	3	4	7	6	8	5	2
8	3	2	6	5	9	4	7	1
1	6	9	7	8	4	2	3	5
5	4	7	2	3	1	9	6	8

FAITH

Be righteous and polite

The world will not accept or recognise unrighteous people. We must earn a good name, even at the cost of our lives. Ravana earned ill will and a bad name even after his death. His wife, Mandodari, cautioned him to give up the thought of Sita, but he turned a deaf ear.

The battlefield between the Kauravas and the Pandavas is called "Dharma Kshetra" because it transforms the unrighteous into righteous. Even Duryodhana realised at last, but his father, Dhritarashtra, had not, because he had not been to the Dharma Kshetra. People need to be humble and polite. The reason for Yudhishtira's victory was his politeness. Winning in life will be tough if we are not submissive.

Trichy. Sri. Kalyanaraman said in a discourse that, though Arjuna and Krishna had met several times before, Arjuna had not asked for Krishna's counsel before. Only when he was confused on the battlefield did he ask Krishna to tender saner advice.

The *Gita*, though told by the Lord to Arjuna, is still followed by people. Krishna advised Arjuna, "You would kill only the mortal coils of the enemies but not their souls, which are indestructible." Krishna also cautioned Arjuna not to grieve in discharging his duties. "Holding pleasure and pain, gain and loss, victory and defeat, gird yourself up for the battle." (*Sukha Dukhe samey kruthva* – Ch 2-Verse 38). Thiruvalluvar says,"Perseverance leads to prosperity, and effortlessness results in poverty." (*Kural* 616)

Lord Krishna advised Arjuna on the duties of a man, citing his own example as Rama. People are expected to perform their duties, leaving the outcome to God.

INBRIEF

Indian Bank Q1 net up 24%, driven by non-interest income

State-run Indian Bank's first-quarter 2025-2026 net profit increased 23.69% year-on-year to ₹2,973 crore driven by growth in non-interest income and lower slippages. Net interest income increased by 2.93% to ₹6,359 crore. Net interest margin declined to 3.23% from 3.44% on repo rate cuts by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Gross Non-Performing Asset (NPA) slid 76 basis points to 3.01% while Net NPAs declined to 0.18% from 0.39%, the bank said.

Coromandel Intl to add $8 mn stake in Senegal's BMCC

Coromandel International will buy an additional 17.69% stake for $7.70 million in Senegalese rock phosphate miner Baobab Mining and Chemicals Corporation (BMCC). This will take its stake in BMCC to 71.51%, the agriculture solutions firm said. The board also approved the setting up of a 3,888 TPD bagging plant at Kakinada facility for ₹137 crore. For the quarter ended June, the firm's consolidated net profit grew 62% to ₹501.59 crore while total income rose 49% to ₹7,126.04 crore.

Canara Bank Q1 net rises 22% as non-interest income grows

Canara Bank reported a 21.69% year-on-year increase in first quarter (FY26) net profit to ₹4,752 crore. The bank said a significant rise in non-interest income drove the growth. The lender's Q1 net interest income fell 1.7% to ₹9,009 crore, however, other income jumped 32.7% to ₹7,060.48 crore. Gross non-performing assets ratio improved to 2.69% from 4.14% while Net NPA ratio bettered to 0.63% from 1.24%.

India U.K. trade deal likely to boost farm export growth by 20%

The India-United Kingdom CETA 'sharpens' India's competitive edge on a number of agricultural and food-related items, according to an official

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The government expects the India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) signed by the two countries on Thursday to lead to substantial benefits for a variety of Indian export-oriented sectors such as agriculture, textiles, leather, chemicals, and engineering goods, according to officials who are aware of the calculations.

Under the deal, the U.K. will benefit from a 12 percentage point average tariff reduction – from the current average of 15% to a new average of 3% – for exports to India. It will see a removal or reduction of tariffs on 90% of the tariff lines, covering 92% of the items currently exported from the U.K .to India.

Among the items that will find cheaper access to the India market from the U.K. are whiskey, items related to aerospace, automobiles and electrical machinery.

The economic and trade deal was signed in the UK by Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and the U.K'.s Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds, in the presence of the Prime Ministers of both the countries.

Win-win deal: PM Narendra Modi, U.K. PM Keir Starmer, Piyush Goyal and Jonathan Reynolds at Chequers, England. AP

"In agriculture, India exports $36.63 billion globally, while the U.K. imports $37.52 billion, but imports just $811 million from India, showing room for growth in high-value agri products," a government official said. "Duty-free access is expected to raise agriculture exports by over 20% in next three years."

No sensitive sectors

India has not provided the U.K access to its most sensitive sectors such as dairy products, apples, oats, and edible oils.

"These exclusions reflect India's calibrated trade strategy – one that prioritises food security, domestic price stability, and vulnerable farming communities," according to the official.

Competitive edge

Apart from this, the deal "sharpens" India's competitive edge on a number of agricultural and food-related items, the official explained. For example, in the export of fresh grapes to U.K., the deal provides India an advantage over Brazil and brings it on par with top exporters such as Egypt and South Africa.

In processed food preparations, the deal helps India gain ground on the U.S., China, and Thailand.

"Notably, in the processed food sector, tariffs on 99.7% of lines have been slashed from as high as 70% to zero, offering a major boost for Indian exporters," the official said.

Engineering, textile MSMEs set to benefit

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

Two major sectors that have a dominant presence of Micro, Small and Medium-scale Enterprises (MSMEs) and are expected to gain immensely from the India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) are textiles and engineering.

Elimination of tariffs on textiles and garments from the earlier average 12% will remove the duty disadvantage that the Indian exporters faced in the U.K. with competitors such as Bangladesh and Cambodia, said government officials.

The segments poised for exponential growth include ready-made garments, home textiles, carpets, and handicrafts. While the U.K.'s total imports of $26.95 billion of textile and clothing are lower than India's global exports of $ 36.71 billion, India still supplies only $1.79 billion to the U.K.

Ready-made garment exports are likely to get a fillip.

With the CETA promising duty-free access and removal of trade barriers, this sector is well-positioned to increase its footprint in the U.K. market, they said.

In engineering, 1,659 tariff lines have been made duty-free giving a major export boost. The expectation is duty-free engineering goods exports will double in five years to $7.5 billion by 2029-2030. U.K. is India's sixth largest export market for engineering goods with a growth of 12% in 2024-2025.

Ajay Seth appointed as IRDAI chairman

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Former Finance and Economic Affairs Secretary Ajay Seth was appointed as the chairman of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) for a three-year term on Thursday.

He succeeds Debasish Panda, also a former IAS officer. Mr. Panda's three-year term ended in March and ever since the post at IRDAI had remained vacant.

Mr. Seth, a 1987-batch Karnataka cadre IAS officer, retired as the Union Finance Secretary in June.

Centre releases new telecom policy draft

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Aims to build quantum-secure communications and develop AI for cyberspace

The government will soon release a new National Telecom Policy, seven years after the last one was put out. The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on Thursday published the draft text for comment, with a vision statement emphasizing a "telecom product nation that is driven by innovation and that universally connects its citizens meaningfully, securely and sustainably."

The terminology is back to "telecom" from 2018's National Digital Communications Policy, with a sector-specific focus on increasing connectivity, modernising the domestic telecom supply chain, and adding 10 lakh jobs in the industry (a fourth of the NDCP's four million target), while "upskilling" existing workers. The policy also emphasises on reducing the sector's carbon footprint by 30% and improving cybersecurity of telecom firms.

The government has set a target of covering 90% of the population with 5G by 2030, and 100% with 4G. Towers that are connected by fiber to telecom networks (as opposed to wireless links to other towers), are sought to be increased from 46% to 80%. One million wi-fi hotspots are targeted to be set up (a tenth of the 2018 policy's target), and encouraging satellite internet where needed.

The Centre has also proposed a boost to local research and development (R&D) efforts in telecom, and increased Indian participation in global standardisation discussions, particularly on 6G. Domestic manufacturing should increase 150% by 2030, the document states.

The draft encourages the use and development of AI specifically for cyberspace, such as in cybersecurity, where AI is touted as both a challenge in offensive terms (such as through generative AI-fueled bots attacking telecom networks), and in defensive strategies, like systems that use AI to detect large attacks and thwart them at an early stage. It also suggests using AI in complaint resolution "through unified portal and use of ... chatbots".

The focus on security is carried on from the 2018 policy, with specific strategies to "monitor Indian and foreign satellites and improve mitigation of satellite carrier interference," and "increasing monitoring ... along the border areas to reduce cross-border spillage".

Some of the objectives are activities where work has already begun, such as the mobile number validation service, to allow institutions to verify an individual mobile user's identity

The "lawful interception" language from the 2018 policy has been eliminated in Thursday's draft, and focuses instead on building quantum-secure communications. On sustainability, the new policy also adds the "circular economy" imperative of recycling materials from telecom equipment in use.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	82,184	-0.66
US Dollar	86.40	0.01
Gold	99,620	-1.39
Brent oil	69.26	1.66

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2608.40	-6.10
Adani Ports	1411.60	-9.20
Apollo Hosp	7363.50	-10.00
Asian Paints	2352.10	-23.30
Axis Bank	1095.10	-9.70
Bajaj Auto	8288.50	-108.50
Bajaj Finserv	2032.30	-28.20
Bajaj Finance	958.95	-9.35
Bharat Elec	398.25	-1.95
Bharti Airtel	1936.10	-7.70
Cipla	1487.90	14.40
Coal India	385.55	-5.20
Dr Reddys Lab	1265.50	18.10
Eicher Motors	5469.00	27.50
Eternal Ltd.	313.15	11.10
Grasim Ind	2735.90	26.80
HCL Tech	1507.20	-22.60
HDFC Bank	2014.20	-10.10
HDFC Life	757.30	-5.20
Hero MotoCorp	4301.90	-61.80
Hindalco	695.60	0.20
Hind Unilever	2437.80	-12.60
ICICI Bank	1483.40	-5.20
IndusInd Bank	847.90	-3.25
Infosys	1552.50	-22.00
ITC	409.95	-5.00
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	316.45	2.00
JSW Steel	1033.80	0.00
Kotak Bank	2142.10	-28.30
L&T	3477.50	-7.40
M&M	3260.90	-7.90
Maruti Suzuki	12557.00	-70.00
NestleIndia	2322.10	-130.40
NTPC	338.90	-4.15
ONGC	244.83	-0.72
PowerGrid Corp	299.35	0.10
Reliance Ind	1402.90	-21.70
SBI Life	1793.60	-15.90
State Bank	815.70	-4.95
Shriram Finance Ltd.	633.55	-20.50
Sun Pharma	1692.00	9.50
TataConsumerProduct	1072.80	10.20
Tata Motors	700.50	10.40
Tata Steel	163.48	0.71
TCS	3148.00	-31.10
Tech Mahindra	1498.60	-48.00
Titan	3484.40	13.00
Trent Ltd.	5154.00	-205.00
UltraTech Cement	12304.00	-68.00
Wipro	261.85	0.45

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 24

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	86.21	86.53
Euro	101.15	101.54
British Pound	116.67	117.10
Japanese Yen (100)	58.71	58.93
Chinese Yuan	12.05	12.09
Swiss Franc	108.35	108.77
Singapore Dollar	67.44	67.70
Canadian Dollar	63.29	63.53
Malaysian Ringitt	20.43	20.54
Australian Dollar	56.94	57.15

Source:Indian Bank

TUNGABHADRA BOARD: TB DAM
e-Procurement Long Term Tender Notice IFBNo.31/2025-26
Dt. 09.07.2025 (2nd Call)

Tender for the Work of "Empanelment of Quality Assurance and Management consultancy services for Inspection, Testing, Quality control and Monitoring of Dam spillway gate work, TB Dam for the works of Removing of stoplog elements, removing of 32 old spillway gates and providing 33 new spillway gates of TB Dam" in respect of HW & HLC Division, TB Dam under 'Works Category" is re-invited through `e-Procurement'

Bid Document downloading Start Date & Time:	**25.07.2025 at 11:00 AM**
Bid Document downloading End Date & Time:	**07.08.2025 at 3:00 PM**
Bid Submission End Date & Time:	**07.08.2025 at 5:30 PM**
Date of opening of Commercial Stage:	**07.08.2025 at 6:00 PM**

Further details can be seen @ **https://tender. apeprocurement.gov.in**

PH: 08394 - 259114
Email: seibtbb@yahoo.com

Sd/- Superintending Engineer
I.B, TB Board, TB Dam

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Unit - 1 : Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist.
Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04324 - 277001 (10 Lines)
Unit - 2 : Mondipatti, Manapparai Tk, Trichy - 621 306, Tamil Nadu.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Description of work	Due date
252613 002937	Procurement of Green Bamboo from open market sources of Tamil Nadu to TNPL Unit - I at Kagithapuram.	08.08.2025
252623 001569	Procurement of debarked Bluegum pulpwood from open market sources of Tamil Nadu to TNPL Unit - II at Mondipatti.	09.08.2025
82025016	TNPL Unit - II invites Tender for sale of Wood Dust from TNPL Unit - II on four months Rate Contract / "As is where is basis"	08.08.2025
Email	252613002937; 252623001569 - purchase.wood@tnpl.co.in 82025016 - storesdis.u2@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website only. Detailed Terms & conditions, tender fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from website : **www.tnpl.com**

DIPR/3772/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

राष्ट्रीय सिद्धा संस्थान / NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SIDDHA
आयुष मंत्रालय / **Ministry of Ayush**
भारत सरकार / **Government of India**
ताम्बरम सनटोरियम / **Tambaram Sanatorium**
चेन्नई / **Chennai - 600 047.**
फ़ोन / **Tele : 044-22411611, 044-22381314**
ईमेल / **Email: director.nis-tn@gov.in**
वेब / **Website: https://nischennai.org**

संख्या / **No.NIS/1-3/Recruitment-Contract/2025/Vol 2**
तारीख / **Date : 24.07.2025**

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION NO: 05 / 2025

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for filling up the following posts on contract basis at National Institute of Siddha, Chennai

Consultant Posts :

(i) **Consultant (Senior Research Officer)** - 01 post (on Contract basis)
(ii) **Consultant (Librarian)** - 01 post (on Contract basis)
(iii) **IT Consultant** - 01 post (on Contract basis)
(iv) **Media Consultant** - 01 post (on Contract basis)

For details regarding the details of the above posts, educational qualifications, age, experience, general conditions etc., please visit "NOTIFICATIONS" in the Institute website **https://nischennai.org.**

Any updates / modifications in this regard will be posted in the above website only.

Director (ic)

Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise & group company of IndianOil)
[CIN – L40101TN1965GOI005389]
Regd. Office: No.536, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai – 600 018
Website: www.cpcl.co.in, Email ID: shankarp@cpcl.co.in Phone No.: (044)24346807

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

Special Window for Re-Lodgement of Transfer Requests of Physical Shares

Pursuant to SEBI Circular dated 2nd July 2025, shareholders are informed that a special window has been opened only for re-lodgement of transfer deeds along with physical share certificates which were lodged prior to the deadline of 1st April 2019 and were rejected/returned/not attended to, due to deficiency in the documents process or otherwise.

This facility of re-lodgement will be available to the eligible physical shareholders till 6th January 2026. Shareholders are requested to re-submit their transfer requests along with physical share certificates with our Registrar and Share Transfer Agent, KFin Technologies Ltd. whose details are given below:

Kfin Technologies Ltd.
Unit: Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited
Selenium Tower B, Plot number 31 & 32
Financial District, Nanakramguda, Hyderabad - 500032
Toll Free No – 1800 309 4001
E-mail Address: einward.ris@kfintech.com

For Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited
Sd/-
Place : Chennai
Dated : 25th July, 2025
P. Shankar
Company Secretary

TELANGANA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
"Tourism House" # 3-5-891, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad-500029
e-Procurement Tender Notice No.11/SE/TGTDC/2025-26, Dated:19.07.2025

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Est. cost Rs. in Lakhs	Bid Downloading Start Date
1	Development of "Somasila Wellness & Spiritual Retreat" (Amaragiri Island) in Nallamala, Telangana under Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) Scheme	4744.78	26.07.2025

Bids are invited on e-Procurement platform from eligible contractors. Further details can be seen @ e-procurement market place **www.tender.telangana.gov.in**.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer,
TGTDC Ltd, Hyderabad.

DIPR R.O.No.403-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt:24.07.2025

Government of Telangana
HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD
O/o. Chief General Manager (Engg), PCC-II, 5th Floor, Administrative Building, Khairatabad, Hyd - 04, Telangana.

Expression of Interest (EOI) for Providing PMC & TPQA&QC for the work of "Godavari Drinking Water Supply Scheme Phase-II & III and Filling up of Osmansagar & Himayathsagar Reservoirs for Rejuvenation of Musi River - PACKAGE-II"
EOI.No. 04/HMWSSB/CGM(E)/PCC-II/Godavari-Pkg-II/PMC&TPQA&QC/EoI/2025-26, dt : 24.07.2025

The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) is implementing the project of "Godavari Drinking Water Supply Scheme Phase-II & III and Filling up of Osmansagar & Himayathsagar Reservoirs for Rejuvenation of Musi River - Laying of 2200mm, 2400mm, 3000mm dia MS pumping mains, Construction of 80 ML, 22.5 ML, MBRs, 18ML RWR/CWRs, 120, 70 ML WTPs & Pump Houses and Electro Mechanical Equipment, Transformers, Substation at various locations and 1500/1200/1000 trunk mains and 800/600/400mm dia Distribution mains under HAM of Contract - Including Manning, Operation and Maintenance of Project for 10 years - PACKAGE-II". The HMWSSB, is interested in employing Engineering Consultants to provide the PMC & TPQA&QC services and the Expressions of Interest (EOI) is hereby invited from the consultants having experience in the job of conducting Project Management Consultancy & Third Party Quality Assurance and Quality Control (PMC & TPQA&QC) for the above work. The agencies having experience of similar nature of works are required to apply with their credentials indicating that they are qualified to perform the said services with Central Govt / State Govt/ULBs client certificates on similar assignments, organization details with their technical expertise of personnel, projects etc capable to undertake such assignments performed for similar nature of Projects.

The interested consultants may submit their application from **Date :28.07.2025 to Date: 02.08.2025** to **O/o. Chief General Manager (E), PCC-II, HMWSSB, 5th Floor, Administrative Building, Front Block, Khairatabad, Hyderabad - 500 004** along with non-refundable fee of **Rs.10000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)** in the form of Demand Draft drawn in favor of **"HMWSSB"** for issue of RFP Document.

Sd/- Chief General Manager (Engg), PCC-II, 5th Floor, Administrative Building, Khairatabad, Hyderabad - 04, Telangana.

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS-TIRUMALA
SRI IT DEPARTMENT, TIRUMALA. Roc. No. TTD-14023(31)/17/2024-AE0(VQC)-TTD

NAME OF THE WORK: Supply of Manpower - 23 Nos., of Unskilled Workers as attendants to work at VQC-II, TTD, Tirumala for attending to maintain Q-lines at VQC-II compartments, Tirumala as assigned by the department from time to time for a period of 24 months (02 years) to work at VQC-II, Tirumala. **●NIT download starting date: 24-07-2025 @ 5.00 PM ●NIT download ending date: 05-08-2025 @ 1.00 PM.** For further details including terms and conditions please visit log on to the web site **http://www.tirumala.org and http://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.** For enquiry, please contact Phone Nos:**0877-2263758/2263592, 9849575952.**

TTD-40021/10/2025-PRO SEC (Adv.No.143) Date:24-07-2025 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

ONGC ENERGY: Now AND Next | ओएनजीसी | ONGC | ONGC ENERGY: Now AND Next

Regd. Office: Plot No. 5A-5B, Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi- 110070
CIN No L74899DL1993GOI054155 | Website: www.ongcindia.com | Email: secretariat@ongc.co.in

CORRIGENDUM
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NOTICE
EOI Notice No. - ONGC/NTA/PTC/2025-26

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), a leading E&P company of India intends to procure tubing & casing pipes of various sizes having Premium Thread Connections (Threaded & Coupled – T&C, HPHT, Flush Joint etc.) from reputed Manufacturers / Suppliers/ Threader.

The company/organization who have requisite experience and capabilities in the field and meet the qualification criteria are requested to see the details of this EOI on the **website www.tenders.ongc.co.in (Contact phone +91-7710091106 & +91-9968282453** and **E-mail – singh_parmanand@ongc.co.in & alag_vinodkumar@ongc.co.in** on any working day for further details, if any). Based on the information provided, ONGC will short list the Premium Thread Connections as per the requirement.

The submission date of the proposal has been extended to on or before **15.08.2025.** Interested company/ organization are requested to submit their proposal as per details given on the ONGC website.

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
252623 001543	Supply and Installation of Low Side Air Conditioning Works for TM#5 in TNPL Unit - II.	08.08.2025
252633 000132	Imported Limestone for LSFM - Cement Plant.	07.08.2025
252623 001600	Design, Manufacture, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of Fire Hydrant System for TM#5 of TNPL Unit - II	08.08.2025
252613 002970	Heavy Duty LDPE Shrink Film 80/90 Microns of various sizes for Unit - I.	06.08.2025
252613 002739	A4 70 GSM, A4 75 GSM & A4 80 GSM Copier Laminated Wrapper Reels (Base Paper 100 GSM with 15 Micron BOPP) for Unit - I.	06.08.2025
252613 002964	180 GSM Kraft Reels of various sizes for Unit - I & II.	06.08.2025
Email	252623001543 - pmd1@tnpl.co.in 252633000132 - purchase.fuel@tnpl.co.in 252623001600 - pmd2@tnpl.co.in 252613002970 ; 2739; 2964 - purchase.packing@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal. Detailed Terms & conditions, tender fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

DIPR/3770/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
BANGALORE-560 012

IISc/CCMD/Tenders/2025-26 Date: 22.07.2025

Tender Notification- IISc/Tender-ELE-03/2025-26

Indian Institute of Science invites bids in two cover system through e-procurement platform **https://eprocure.gov.in.** Any specialised firms company registered under KPWD /CPWD/ railways/ MES/ central PSUs/ or any Government department of **Class I/Class A Electrical Contractors** are eligible to apply for the work of **"Supply, Installation, Testing and commissioning of 2 x 1000 KVA Compact substation for UG Complex in IISc, Bangalore."** Estimated Cost of Project is **Rs.2,02,67,172.00/-.** Last date of receipt of application is **11th August 2025** at 1530Hrs . Any other details can be obtained from the office of the Centre for Campus Management & Development, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore on all working days or e-mail **office.ccmd@iisc.ac.in** **REGISTRAR**

KANO

Troops kill at least 95 'bandits' in shootout and air strikes in Nigeria

AFP

Nigerian troops killed at least 95 members of an armed criminal gang, known as 'bandits', in shootout and air strikes earlier this week, according to a situation report shared with the UN on Thursday. The military put out a statement, saying that forces "engaged terrorists in a firefight, neutralising several". AFP

NAIROBI

Kenya police watchdog says 65 were killed after recent protests

AFP

Sixty-five people were killed during recent violent protests in Kenya, police watchdog IPOA said on Thursday. It said authorities used "disproportionate force" amid protests against police brutality and poor governance under President Ruto. IPOA also criticised the lack of professionalism and accountability of the police. AFP

BRASILIA

Brazil to join South Africa's Gaza genocide case against Israel at ICJ

AFP

Brazil finalises its submission to join South Africa's genocide case against Israel at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday. South Africa accuses Israel of violating the 1948 Genocide Convention, claiming attacks on civilians. Brazil cites violence, annexation, starvation as weapons. REUTERS

CLEARWATER

Hulk Hogan, icon in professional wrestling, dies at age 71, says WWE

AP

Hulk Hogan, the moustachioed, headscarf-wearing icon in the world of professional wrestling, has died at the age of 71, Florida police and WWE said on Thursday. Hogan, whose real name was Terry Bollea, was perhaps the biggest star in WWE's history. WWE posted a note on X saying it was saddened to learn about Hogan's death. AP

11 killed in clashes between Thai and Cambodian forces

The two sides fired small arms, artillery and rockets, and Thailand also called in air strikes; the trigger for the clashes was a mine explosion along the border that injured five Thai soldiers

Associated Press
BANGKOK

Thai and Cambodian soldiers clashed in several areas along their border on Thursday in a major escalation of their conflict that left at least 11 people dead, mostly civilians. The two sides fired small arms, artillery and rockets, and Thailand also called in air strikes.

Thai villagers could be seen on video fleeing their homes to seek shelter as the clashes began in the morning.

Fighting was ongoing in at least six areas along the border, Thai Defence Ministry spokesperson Surasant Kongsiri said. The trigger for the clashes was a mine explosion along the border on Wednesday that wounded five Thai soldiers and led Bangkok to withdraw its Ambassador to Cambodia and expelled Cambodia's.

Thailand has also sealed all land border crossings while urging its citizens to leave Cambodia.

People wait in line to get food at a shelter in Thailand's Buriram province on Thursday, following clashes along the border. REUTERS

The Southeast Asian neighbours have long-standing border disputes that periodically flare along their 800-km frontier and usually result in brief confrontations that sometimes involves exchanges of gunfire.

But relations have deteriorated sharply since a confrontation in May that killed a Cambodian soldier, and Thursday's clashes were far bigger in scale and intensity than usual.

The first clash on Thursday morning happened in an area near the ancient Ta Muen Thom temple along the border of Thailand's Surin province and Cambodia's Oddar Meanchey province.

A video from the Thai side showed people running from their homes and hiding in a concrete bunker as explosions sounded.

The Thai army said its forces heard a drone before seeing six armed Cambodian soldiers moving closer to Thai military positions at the border. It said Thai soldiers tried to shout at them to defuse the situation, but the Cambodian side started to open fire.

Cambodia's Defence Ministry, however, said Thailand deployed a drone first before opening fire, and that Cambodia "acted strictly within the bounds of self-defence, responding to an unprovoked incursion by Thai troops that violated our territorial integrity".

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet wrote to the current President of the UN Security Council asking for an urgent meeting "to stop Thailand's aggression".

The Thai army said it later launched airstrikes on military targets in Cambodia, while the Cambodian Defence Ministry said the Thai jets dropped bombs on a road near the ancient Preah Vihear temple, which has been the site of some of the most prominent and violent past conflicts between the countries.

Russian attacks kill five in east Ukraine

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

Russian attacks killed at least five persons, including three members of a displaced family, in separate attacks across Ukraine's war-scarred east, Ukrainian authorities said on Thursday.

A couple and their 36-year-old son were killed in a village in the eastern Kharkiv region late Wednesday, local officials said. Two more women were killed in the Donetsk region on Thursday.

Russia has stepped up drone and missile attacks on Ukraine more than three years into its invasion, even as the warring parties meet for ceasefire talks.

The Russian army has also been making advances on the ground. Families with children were ordered out of 10 settlements in Donetsk, including the town of Dobropillia, where 28,000 people lived before the war.

A strike later on Kharkiv city wounded 37 people, including a 10-year-old girl, the governor said.

Nearly 50 killed as plane crashes in Russia's far east

Agence France-Presse
MOSCOW

A passenger plane carrying nearly 50 people crashed in a remote area of Russia's far eastern Amur region on Thursday, killing all on board, authorities said.

The plane, a Soviet-made twin-propeller Antonov-24, went down in remote, thickly forested terrain, leaving a column of smoke pouring from the crash site and no signs of survivors, according to state media and videos published by investigators.

The Angara Airlines flight was headed to the town of Tynda from the city of Blagoveshchensk when it disappeared from radar at around 1.00 p.m. local time.

A rescue helicopter later spotted the burning fuselage of the plane on a forested mountain slope about 15 kilometres south of Tynda's airport.

Videos published by Russian investigators showed smoke rising from the crash site and what appeared to be fragments of the plane strewn across the forest floor.

A search and rescue team arrived only hours after the crash at the remote, hard-to-reach site and found no evidence of survivors, according to the state news agency *TASS*.

The Antonov AN-24 passenger plane at what is said to be the crash site, outside the town of Tynda in Russia's eastern Amur region. AFP

Investigators did not say what caused the crash.

Weather conditions at the time of the incident were poor, Angara Airlines CEO Sergei Salamanov told Russia's *REN TV* channel.

"The commander made the decision to carry out the flight," he was quoted as saying.

Tynda, home to around 30,000 people, lies in an area of thick taiga forest about 200 kilometres from the Chinese border.

At least one Chinese national was on the flight, state media in China reported.

Chinese President Xi Jinping sent a message of condolence to Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin.

"I would like to express my deep condolences to the victims and sincere sympathy to the families of the victims," Mr. Xi said, according to Chinese state broadcaster *CCTV*.

The plane appeared to have been manufactured almost 50 years ago, during the Soviet era, according to civil aviation database *Russianplanes.net*.

In 2021, the aircraft's airworthiness certificate was extended until 2036, data from the site showed.

International media groups urge Israel to allow access to Gaza

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

International news agencies *Agence France-Presse* (AFP), *Associated Press* (AP) and *Reuters* as well as the *BBC* on Thursday called on Israel to allow journalists in and out of Gaza, which is subject to a strict blockade.

"We are desperately concerned for our journalists in Gaza, who are increasingly unable to feed themselves and their families," the media groups said in a joint statement. They added that "journalists endure many deprivations and hardships in war zones. We are deeply alarmed that the threat of starvation is now one of them."

"We once again urge the Israeli authorities to allow journalists in and out of Gaza. It is essential that adequate food supplies reach the people there," they concluded.

Many news groups around the world depend on photo, video and text coverage of the conflict provided by Palestinian reporters

With Gaza sealed off, many media groups around the world depend on photo, video and text coverage of the conflict provided by Palestinian reporters.

Media watchdog Reporters Without Borders (RSF) said in early July that more than 200 journalists had been killed in Gaza since the war began.

Columbia varsity to pay $200 mn to settle dispute with Trump govt.

Agence France-Presse
NEW YORK

Columbia University said on Wednesday it will pay $200 million to the U.S. government after President Donald Trump threatened to pull federal funding over what he said was its unwillingness to protect Jewish students.

In a sweeping deal that will restore the prestigious New York institution's federal monies, Columbia has pledged to obey rules that bar it from taking race into consideration in admissions or hiring, among other concessions.

"Columbia University has reached an agreement with the United States government to resolve multiple federal agency investigations into alleged violations of federal anti-discrimination laws," a statement said, adding that the $200 million would be paid over three years.

The university will also pay

Donald Trump

$21 million to settle investigations brought by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, it said.

"Under today's agreement, a vast majority of the federal grants which were terminated or paused in March 2025 will be reinstated and Columbia's access to billions of dollars in current and future grants will be restored," the statement said.

The promise of the federal funding spigot reopening offers relief for the university, which was under growing financial pressure, despite a comfortable endowment and a reputation it can bank on.

The agreement also represents a victory for Mr. Trump, who has repeatedly claimed elite universities brainwash students against his nationalist ideas with left-wing bias.

Disciplinary actions

Under the settlement, Columbia will maintain a security force to prevent demonstrations in academic spaces, such as those that rocked the campus last year when pro-Palestinian protestors clashed with law enforcement and occupied university buildings.

The school also agreed to "promptly provide" federal authorities with any requested information on "disciplinary actions involving student visa-holders resulting in expulsions or suspensions, and arrest records that Columbia is aware of for criminal activity, including trespass or other violation of law."

Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMCL)
In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751001
Tel.:(0674) 2380608; Website:www.osmcl.nic.in;
Email: proc.osmcl.od@od.gov.in
Assuring Quality, Saving Lives

Notification No.6554/OSMCL/2025 Date : 23.07.2025

NOTICE INVITING Re-tender for Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Radiology Equipments on Rate Contract Basis

Online Bids through e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in) are invited from eligible bidders for supply, installation & commissioning of Equipment as per the particulars mentioned below:

Sl.	Bid Reference No.	Item Name	Bid Document Cost inclusive of GST (Rs.)
1.	OSMCL/2025-26/ Radiology_Equipment/02	Re-tender for Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Radiology Equipments on Rate Contract Basis	Rs.5,900/-

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time	
1.	Date & time of release of bid	23/07/2025, 5 PM	
2.	Date & time of Pre-Bid Meeting	30/07/2025, 11.30 AM Venue : Conference Hall, Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd., In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar	
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time
		07/08/2025, 3 PM	22/08/2025, 5 PM
4.	Date & time of Online Technical bid Opening	29/08/2025, 3 PM	
5.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders	

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: **www.osmcl.nic.in** and **https://tendersodisha.gov.in.** The Authority reserves the right to reject or modify any conditions of the tender or cancel the tender or cancel the issued purchase order at any stage without assigning any reason thereof.

Managing Director, OSMCL
CAD-1253 OIPR-10112/11/0029/2526

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION (CHENNAI) LIMITED
PALLAVAN ILLAM, ANNA SALAI, CHENNAI - 600 002.

e -TENDER NOTICE

e-Tenders are invited for the Procurement of Automobile Spares, Preparation, Supply and Serving of Mid-Day Meals (Lunch) to the respective Cooking Centre Depots and Special Tea at Headquarters of MTC (Chennai) Ltd., Supply of 350 Grams Sweet Bread and 20 Litres BT Drinking water jars to the MTC Depots, Provision of Driving Services (Drivers), Fare Collection person (Conductors), Welder and Tinker services at MTC depots and Housekeeping services at MTC Depots, Workshops and Bus Terminals from the eligible tenderers who shall submit documentary evidence on behalf of the Managing Director in the Government e-procurement web portal **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app.**

Sl. No.	DESCRIPTION OF THE TENDER	E.M.D. Amount (Rs.)
1	Procurement of Rear Air Suspension for Leyland Vehicles	Rs.1,00,000/-
2	Procurement of Filters for BSIV & BSVI Leyland Vehicles	Rs.70,000/-
3	Procurement of Rear Brake Lining & Front wheel disc Brake pad for Leyland BSVI (ULE 2512) Vehicles	Rs.90,000/-
4	Preparation, Supply and Serving of Mid-Day Meals (Lunch) to the respective Cooking Centre Depots and Special Tea at Headquarters of MTC (Chennai) Ltd.	Rs.1,00,000/-
5	Supply of 350 Grams Sweet Bread to all MTC Depots	Rs.35,000/-
6	Supply of 20 Litres (BT) Drinking Water Can to the respective MTC Depots	Rs.50,000/-
7	Provision of Services for Bus Body Repair Welder and Tinker Work in MTC (Chennai) Ltd.	Rs.1,00,000/-
8	Provision of Driving Services (Drivers) to operate regular Bus Operation in MTC (Chennai) Ltd.	Rs.10,00,000/-
9	Provision of Fare collection person (Conductors) services to Operate regular Bus Operation in MTC (Chennai) Ltd.	Rs.10,00,000/-
10	Provision of Services for cleaning of Toilets and Housekeeping services at MTC Depots, Workshops and Bus Terminals in MTC (Chennai) Ltd.	Rs.1,50,000/-

Last date for submission of tender : **Upto 14.30 Hrs on 29.08.2025**
Date of opening : **At 15.00 Hrs on 29.08.2025**

EMD details and other Tender related details is available in Government e-portal website **(https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app).** Any modification (if any) in tender terms and tender invitation period will be uploaded in the website and the tenderers are requested to go through the above website periodically.

DIPR/ 3808 /TENDER/2025 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

Israel recalls negotiators after Hamas responds to truce plan

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Israel on Thursday said that after Hamas had submitted its response to mediators on the latest ceasefire proposal, the Israeli negotiators were being brought back for consultations.

A Palestinian source said that Hamas's response included proposed amendments to clauses on the entry of aid, maps of areas from which the Israeli army should withdraw, and guarantees on securing a permanent end to the war.

The White House said on Wednesday that U.S. envoy was meeting "key leaders" from the region.

GUJARAT URJA VIKAS NIGAM LTD
CIN U40109GJ2004SGC045195
ISO 9001:2015 Certified Company
Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhavan, Racecourse, Vadodara 390007
PBX: (0265) 2310582-86, www.guvnl.com
GUVNL

TENDER NOTICE

GUVNL, a Govt. of Gujarat Undertaking hereby invites e-tender for purchase of 300-600 MWRTC power and 500-600 MW in Peak hours for the period from 18-08-2025 to 31-12-2025 as per Ministry of Power (MoP), Govt. of India Guidelines dated 30-03-2016 read with amendment to the guideline notified on 21-02-2022. RFP is available at www.mstcecommerce.com from 24-07-2025. Bid has to be submitted online through DEEP Portal of MoP. All terms and conditions shall be as per RFP.

Date: 24-07-2025 **General Manager (F&A)**

A BG-BGE

MAXIMUMS

Pant equals Sehwag's six record in Tests, surpasses Rohit in WTC runs

PTI

Rishabh Pant pulled level with Virender Sehwag for the most sixes by an Indian in Tests. Both have 90 maximums in the longest format. The wicketkeeper-batter (2731 runs) overtook Rohit Sharma (2719) to become India's leading run-scorer in the WTC. A limping Pant scored 54 off 75 balls with three fours and two sixes.

PLANNED MOVE

We always wanted to make Pant available for batting: Shardul

GETTY IMAGES

Not many expected Rishabh Pant to come out to bat on Thursday with a fractured foot. Shardul Thakur, however, revealed that the Indian team management, always had plans to make Pant available for batting. "It was always our plan. Kudos to the medical team for getting Rishabh back onto the field," Shardul said.

CONSOLATION WIN

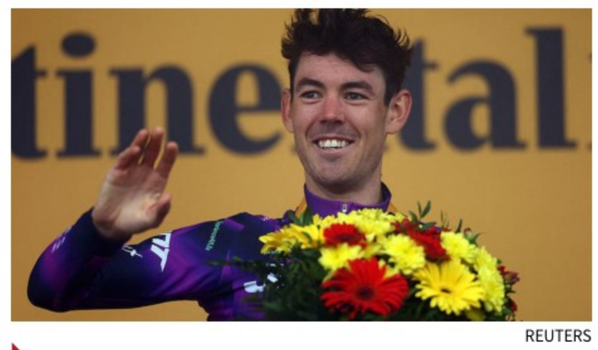
Farhan shines as Pakistan beats Bangladesh in third T20I

AFP

Opener Sahibzada Farhan, *in pic*, hit a half-century as Pakistan ended its Bangladesh tour with a 74-run win in the third T20I in Dhaka, losing the series 1-2. **The scores:** Pakistan 178/7 in 20 overs (Farhan 63, Taskin 3/38) bt Bangladesh 104 in 16.4 overs (Mirza 3/19). **Toss:** Bangladesh; **PoM:** Farhan.

SCALING UP

O'Connor wins stage 18, but Pogacar extends his lead



REUTERS

Australian Ben O'Connor won Tour de France's stage 18 with a world class climb over three Alpine mountains on Thursday as Tadej Pogacar extended his race lead on Jonas Vingegaard. Second-placed Vingegaard attacked a 71km out with Pogacar tracking him and eventually dropping the Dane to gain another 15s.

Crawley, Duckett make merry after Stokes' five-for

The openers add 166 as England ends the second day at 225 for two; India rides on Pant's gritty 54 to reach 358 in its first innings; Shardul chips in with a fighting 41 while Archer claims three

INDIA IN ENGLAND

Star performers: Stokes claimed his first five-wicket haul in eight years before Crawley and Duckett put England on top. GETTY IMAGES & PTI

Shayan Acharya
MANCHESTER

The Old Trafford has witnessed some of Indian cricket's memorable and heart-breaking moments.

In 1990, a young Sachin Tendulkar scored his maiden Test century here, whereas in 2019, India's hopes of making it to the ODI World Cup final were dashed as it went down to New Zealand in a rain-interrupted semifinal.

On Thursday, a story of grit and determination was written at the iconic venue as Rishabh Pant (54, 75b, 3x4, 2x6) batted with a fractured foot, brought up his 18th Test fifty and guided India to 358 in its first innings.

However, England openers Zak Crawley and Ben Duckett turned up the heat on the visitors, guiding the team to 225 for two.

The two backed up their captain Ben Stokes' five-for – his first since September, 2017 – with a partnership of 166 as the Indian bowlers toiled hard.

Although neither Crawley (84, 113b, 13x4, 1x6) nor Duckett (94,100b, 13x4) could go on to a century, they laid the foundation as the Indian seamers could extract little from the surface.

The expectations were high with Jasprit Bumrah leading the pack, but erring line and length meant India was poor with the new ball. Anshul Kamboj, making his debut, was visibly under pressure as he conceded three fours in his opening over, while trying to target Duckett's pads.

While Bumrah kept Crawley on his toes, mixing the away-going and incoming deliveries perfectly, his plan to target Duckett on the pads did not yield the desired results as he went for a few boundaries.

Crawley glanced Mohammed Siraj for his first boundary and followed it up with another through the cover. The England batters capitalised on the loose balls and brought up the 50 in just 11 overs.

As both Crawley and Duckett looked set for three figures, India struck. Crawley fell to Jadeja at first slip, while Kamboj claimed his first wicket as Duckett was caught behind.

But with Ollie Pope and Joe Root around, England avoided further loss.

Earlier, Pant was the centre of attention. Having retired hurt on 37 on the opening day due to a foot fracture, not many expected Pant to turn up. But with India at 314 for six, having lost Shardul Thakur, who played a fighting knock, before lunch, Pant limped his way to the middle.

He was visibly in pain and discomfort, and struggled to run. But he stuck around with Washington Sundar to ensure there were no further dents in the rain-curtailed pre-lunch session.

As Stokes and Archer continued to find movement, it posed a challenge for Pant and Washington. Stokes struck as Washington was caught at fine-leg while attempting a pull. Stokes claimed his five-for in the same over as Kamboj was caught behind for a duck.

Pant brought up his fifty with a boundary through the covers, before being bowled by Archer.

India lost its last four wickets for 21 runs. Stokes finished with figures of five for 72 while Archer claimed three for 73.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA — 1ST INNINGS
Yashasvi Jaiswal c Brook b Dawson 58 (*107b, 10x4, 1x6*), K.L. Rahul c Crawley b Woakes 46 (*98b, 4x4*), B. Sai Sudharsan c Carse b Stokes 61 (*151b, 7x4*), Shubman Gill lbw b Stokes 12 (*23b, 1x4*), Rishabh Pant b Archer 54 (*75b, 3x4, 2x6*), Ravindra Jadeja c Brook b Archer 20 (*40b, 3x4*), Shardul Thakur c Duckett b Stokes 41 (*88b, 5x4*), Washington Sundar c Woakes b Stokes 27 (*90b, 2x4*), Anshul Kamboj c Smith b Stokes 0 (*3b*), Jasprit Bumrah c Smith b Archer 4 (*7b, 1x4*), Mohammed Siraj (not out) 5 (*7b, 1x4*); Extras (b-4, lb-8, nb-4, w-14): 30; Total (in 114.1 overs): 358.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-94 (Rahul, 29.6 overs), 2-120 (Jaiswal, 40.1), 3-140 (Gill, 49.1), 4-235 (Sai Sudharsan, 73.5), 5-266 (Jadeja, 84.5), 6-314 (Shardul, 101.4), 7-337 (Washington, 109.2), 8-337 (Kamboj, 109.5), 9-349 (Pant, 112.3).

ENGLAND BOWLING
Woakes 23-5-66-1, Archer 26.1-3-73-3, Carse 21-1-71-0, Stokes 24-3-72-5, Dawson 15-1-45-1, Root 5-0-19-0.

ENGLAND — 1ST INNINGS
Zak Crawley c Rahul b Jadeja 84 (*113b, 13x4, 1x6*), Ben Duckett c sub (Jurel) b Kamboj 94 (*100b, 13x4*), Ollie Pope (batting) 20 (*42b, 3x4*), Joe Root (batting) 11 (*27b, 2x4*); Extras (b-4, lb-6, nb-6): 16; Total (for two wkts. in 46 overs): 225.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-166 (Crawley, 31.6), 2-197 (Duckett, 38.1).

INDIA BOWLING
Bumrah 13-4-37-0, Kamboj 10-1-48-1, Siraj 10-0-58-0, Shardul 5-0-35-0, Jadeja 8-0-37-1.

Pant. GETTY IMAGES

Pant shows his indomitable spirit

Shayan Acharya
MANCHESTER

As Rishabh Pant walked out to bat on Thursday, with a fractured foot, he received the loudest of cheers from the fans.

The Old Trafford crowd gave a standing ovation as a nonchalant Pant limped his way to the middle, kissing the boundary rope on the way.

He was visibly in pain and discomfort, but with India six down, Pant took painkillers and followed all the necessary medical protocols to take the field.

Despite moving gingerly, Pant occasionally took a few singles before dealing in boundaries. He eventually brought up his 18th Test fifty, with a boundary through the covers off Ben Stokes, before falling to Jofra Archer for 54.

His dedication towards the game reminded one of Anil Kumble's heroics when the leg-spinner bowled with a broken jaw during the fourth Test of the 2002 tour of West Indies.

Pant displayed similar steel on Thursday. With the series on the line and the team needing him the most, Pant once again showcased his indomitable spirit. Since his formative years, Pant talks to himself throughout the innings.

This was something his coach, the late Tarak Sinha, taught him. Things were no different this time either.

After he completed every run, Pant could be seen muttering something to himself, while Washington Sundar walked up to him at frequent intervals to check whether he was feeling alright. Pant will not feature in the final Test at The Oval and will also not keep wickets in the ongoing Test as he has been advised six weeks' rest.

In Pant's absence, Dhruv Jurel donned the big gloves.

Jagadeesan.
FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Jagadeesan called up for The Oval Test

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

It might have come out of the blue, but for N. Jagadeesan, it is the realisation of a long-held dream. The TN player has received a maiden call-up to the national squad for the fifth Test between India and England at The Oval from July 31 as a replacement for the injured Rishabh Pant.

The 29-year-old has been a consistent performer in domestic cricket and TN's highest run-scorer in the last two Ranji seasons, scoring 816 and 674.

After moving to the opener's slot, the wicketkeeper-batter has scored four hundreds in the last two years. A key aspect of his batting has been the way he has built his innings. He has shown the intent to score at a fast clip but without taking risks.

Last year, he was part of Tamil Nadu Colts' UK tour and will look to use that experience.

Humpy ousts Lei, sets up all-Indian final against Divya

Top moves: Humpy held her nerve in the tie-breaks against Tingjie to make it to the summit clash. FIDE

CHESS WORLD CUP

Press Trust of India
BATUMI

Grandmaster Koneru Humpy held her nerve to score a come-from-behind victory over China's Lei Tingjie in the tiebreaker to set up an all-Indian summit clash against Divya Deshmukh at the FIDE Women's World Cup here on Thursday.

Humpy will clash with Divya in the final starting after a day's rest starting on Saturday. With Humpy winning, both she and Divya have now qualified for the Women's candidates' tournament next year.

Having drawn the first two games in the normal time control, Humpy had to settle for another 1-1 draw in the tiebreaker that comprised two games with 15 minutes time control.

After two draws, Humpy had to really work hard in the next set of tie-break games that had 10 minutes for both players with another increment. She lost the first game. It was a win on demand wherein Humpy dominated the next game. The queen pawn opening was good enough as the Indian was in command right from the word go.

Humpy won with her superior technique and also her absolute determination to turn the tide in her favour from any given position.

In the third set of tiebreak games, Humpy drew white in the first game and crushed Lei in all departments. Winning this game meant just a draw was needed for her to enter the final and in the return game Humpy was at her technical best to win again.

BCCI to host Asia Cup in UAE in Sept.

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

The Asian Cricket Council (ACC) has in principle agreed to go ahead with the Asia Cup as per the existing plan. The ACC AGM held in Dhaka confirmed that the event will be hosted by the BCCI in the UAE in September.

"That (the schedule) will also be announced soon. We are in consultation with the BCCI and, hopefully, we will resolve things soon," Mohsin Naqvi, ACC chair, said in Dhaka after the AGM was adjourned.

"The BCCI is in discussion with a few event partners, and they have told us they will announce the schedule soon."

The Hindu understands that the AGM was briefed about the September 5 to 21 window for the event. Eight teams, including India and Pakistan, are set to participate.

Asked specifically about the India-Pakistan clash, Naqvi – who also heads the Pakistan Cricket Board besides being a high-profile minister – said: "Let's wait for the (schedule) announcement first."

The BCCI joined the meeting online, with vice-president Rajeev Shukla being its official representative.

Meanwhile, the AGM was adjourned as BCCI and Sri Lanka Cricket thwarted the vice-president's election.

USA Cricket chair confirms elections despite ongoing dispute with ACE

Ayan Acharya
Ayon Sengupta

USA Cricket chairman Venu Pisike has confirmed the Board will meet the ICC's three-month deadline to hold overdue elections, and fill vacant positions despite an ongoing dispute with its commercial partner, American Cricket Enterprises (ACE).

The elections are a key step towards aligning with US Olympic & Paralympic Committee bylaws and retaining ICC membership.

In an interview, Pisike said delays in holding athlete director elections stemmed from compliance requirements. "We had to align with USOPC guidelines – setting up an Athlete Advisory Council, drafting bylaws, and finalising eligibility rules. That took more than six months," he said.

Currently, USA Cricket has no athlete directors, with one independent director seat vacant and another awaiting reappointment.

Asked about the ICC's directive for the Board to resign, Pisike said the majority declined. "Resigning would unjustly damage their reputations," he said.

"They did not create these legacy issues and are publicly accountable."

He added that a new Board unfamiliar with the ACE deal would struggle to resolve the issues. "Installing an entirely new Board without any history of the contract's complexity could mean it takes years to understand and address the problems – and by then it might be too late, given the influence MLC is trying to exert."

Pisike believes the ACE agreement breaches both USOPC and ICC governance norms, as well as U.S. antitrust law.

"ACE has discretion over contract decisions and amounts, which could influence selections. We see that as another direct violation," he said.

He also argued that the agreement may not meet key U.S. compliance requirements.

"We strongly believe the contract violates the Ted Stevens Act and ICC membership guidelines," Pisike said.

"At drafting, I don't think those considerations were properly addressed. It was treated as a short-form agreement, with a promised long-form to follow within three months; that never materialised, yet the short-form became binding."

INBRIEF

New Zealand maintains unbeaten run in tri-series

Tim Seifert and Rachin Ravindra smashed half-centuries while leg-spinner Ish Sodhi claimed a four-wicket haul as New Zealand outplayed Zimbabwe by 60 runs to maintain its unbeaten run in the tri-series T20 tournament at the Harare Sports Club on Thursday. The Black Caps will meet South Africa in Saturday's final.

The scores: New Zealand 190/6 in 20 overs (Seifert 75, Rachin 63; Ngarava 4/34, Maposa 2/33) bt Zimbabwe 130 in 18.5 overs (Munyonga 40; Sodhi 4/12, Henry 2/34).

Toss: New Zealand. **PoM:** Sodhi.

New Zealand won by 60 runs.

LIVE TELECAST

England vs India: 4th Test, day 3, Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3.30 p.m.

Formula One: Belgian GP, (Sprint Shootout), F1 TV, F1 TV Pro App & FanCode, 8 p.m.

West Indies vs Australia: 4th T20I, FanCode, 4.30 a.m. (Saturday)

Unnati stuns Sindhu, enters a Super 1000 event quarters for first time

The men's doubles pair of Satwik and Chirag also progresses to the last eight; Prannoy goes down fighting to Tien Chen

Breakthrough victory: Unnati became the first Indian after Saina to beat Sindhu in six years. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
CHANGZHOU

Young Unnati Hooda stunned two-time Olympic medallist and Indian badminton stalwart P.V. Sindhu in a gripping three-game contest to storm into the quarterfinals of China Open Super here Thursday.

Facing her decorated compatriot for only the second time, 17-year-old Unnati held her nerve to register a sensational 21-16, 19-21, 21-13 victory in 73 minutes, marking her maiden quarterfinal appearance at a Super 1000 event.

To meet Yamaguchi

The teenager from Rohtak, who has won Super 100 titles at the 2022 Odisha Masters and 2023 Abu Dhabi Masters, will next take on Japan's Akane Yamaguchi, the third seed and a two-time World champion.

The men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty also displayed tactical discipline and composure to notch up a 21-19, 21-19 victory over the eighth-seeded Indonesian combination of Leo Rolly Carnando and Bagas Maulana and progress to the quarterfinals.

End of the road

It was, however, the end of the road for H.S. Prannoy, who bowed out after a hard-fought 21-18, 15-21, 8-21 loss to sixth seed Chou Tien Chen of Chinese Taipei in a 65-minute men's second-round match.

This is the first time that Sindhu has lost to a fellow Indian in an international event in seven years, the last being the 2018 Commonwealth Games final loss to Saina Nehwal.

She had lost to Saina in the 2019 National Championships final as well.

In a match that featured high-octane rallies, momentum shifts, and moments of brilliance from both ends, it was Unnati's fearless approach that made the difference.

Unnati said she herself was surprised with the win.

"I didn't expect that I would win today. But I came thinking that I will give my all. I am happy that I was able to win against her. It was a very tough match for me," she said.

The results: (second round):
Men: Chou Tien Chen (Tpe) bt H.S. Prannoy 18-21, 21-15, 21-8.

Doubles: Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty bt Leo Rolly Carnando & Bagas Maulana (Ina) 21-19, 21-19.

Women: Unnati Hooda bt P.V. Sindhu 21-16, 19-21, 21-13.

IOA puts up a 'united' front

Uthra Ganesan
NEW DELHI

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) put up a united front on Thursday with the entire Executive Council appearing together in public for the first time in almost 18 months, confirming the appointment of Raghuram Iyer as the CEO, and setting up a panel to tackle doping.

Raghuram's appointment by Usha in January 2024 at a salary of ₹20 lakh per month and other perks had been the biggest bone of contention between IOA president P.T. Usha and other members and had remained unratified. A majority of EC members had even brought in a no-confidence motion against Usha last year before it was dropped.

No AGM had been held since March 2023 and a stormy EC meeting in September 2024 had failed to break the impasse. Raghuram, who was also present on the occasion, had continued to discharge his duties.

SNAPSHOTS

Powell rallies to down Advani for World 6-Red snooker crown

Welsh teenager Riley Powell spoilt Pankaj Advani's birthday and denied the Indian a 29th World title with a 5-4 come-from-behind triumph at the IBSF World 6-Red snooker championship in Manama, Bahrain, on Thursday. Earlier, Advani had edged compatriot Aditya Mehta by a similar scoreline in the semifinals.

The results: Final: Powell bt Advani 5-4 (41-6, 10-38, 0-73 (73), 35-42, 38-15, 39-1, 42 (35)-0, 0-44, 38 (32)-9).

Anahat in World junior squash semifinals

India's Anahat Singh, seeded two, defeated Malika Elkarasky of Egypt (5/8) 11-6, 13-11, 11-5 in the girls' quarterfinals of the WSF World junior squash in Cairo on Thursday, thereby confirming herself a medal.
Anahat will take on Nadia Elhammamy of Egypt (3/4) on Friday.

Compound archers assure India of two medals at WUG

Compound archers assured India of at least two medals in team events at the World University Games in Essen, Germany, on Thursday. The Indian men and mixed teams reached the summit clashes, while the women's team made it to the bronze medal match.
The top-ranked Indian men's team, comprising Kushal Dalal, Sahil Jadhav and Hritik Sharma, got a bye before beating the USA 236-229 and Chinese Taipei 235-233 to set up a clash with Turkey.
The second-ranked mixed team, featuring Parneet Kaur and Kushal, enjoyed a bye and went on to defeat Singapore 158-153, the USA 158-157 and Chinese Taipei 158-151 to book a place in the final. It will meet Korea in the gold contest.
The women's team, consisting of Parneet, Madhura Dhamangaonkar and Avneet Kaur, received a bye and defeated Italy 232-226 before losing 233-230 to the USA in the semifinals.
India's recurve men and women's teams lost in the quarterfinals.

Shreyanka, Priya out; Dhara, Prema get India-A call-up

Off-spinner Shreyanka Patil and leg-spinner Priya Mishra have been ruled out of the upcoming India-A tour of Australia due to fitness concerns.
As stated in a July 10 media release, their inclusion was subject to fitness clearance.
Both players are currently undergoing Return-to-Play protocols under the supervision of the BCCI Medical Team at the Centre of Excellence.
The Women's Selection Committee has named medium-pacer Dhara Gujjar and leggie Prema Rawat in all three formats as replacements.
Additionally, Yastika Bhatia has been added to the one-day squad.

India-A will take on Australia-A in a multi-format series starting August 7 in Mackay, featuring three T20s, three ODIs, and a four-day red-ball fixture.

BFI fetes medallists of World Boxing Cup

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Punch of delight: The pugilists who brought laurels to the country in the World Boxing Cups were honoured. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Indian boxers who won medals at this year's World Boxing Cup in Brazil and Kazakhstan were felicitated by the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) on Thursday.

India won four gold, six silver and seven bronze medals across the two legs in the tournament's inaugural edition.

Each gold medallist received a cash prize of ₹2 lakh. Silver and bronze medallists were awarded ₹1 lakh and ₹50,000 each respectively.

The World Boxing Cup finals will be held in India in November.

Vijender Singh, who was the first Indian boxer to win an Olympic medal with his bronze in Beijing 2008, was in attendance for the event on Thursday.

With the BFI currently being run by a six-member interim panel whose tenure is till August 31, acting president Ajay Singh said that fresh elections are on track.

"The BFI elections will be held on Aug. 27 or 28 tentatively," he said.

"We did start the process of conducting the elections in March. But it was held up due to various litigations.

"The world body subsequently created an interim panel. We have been asked to conduct elections before Aug. 31."

On Vijender's involvement, he said: "He is a huge inspiration for our boxers. He has just started to be involved."

Indian golf stars expect new league to draw young fans

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Three of the best golfers in the country – Shiv Kapur, Gaurav Ghei and S.S.P. Chawrasia – were excited about the forthcoming Indian Golf Premier League (IGPL).

In a media interaction, the three observed that golf in its new avatar, "with no cut, decent prize money, fast-paced action", would attract young talent to the game.

"This league, combined with men, women, amateurs and juniors, will do what IPL has done for cricket. It will help promote the nextgen players," said Kapur.

Chawrasia felt that it would be a win-win situation both for the experienced players and the youngsters as both would learn from each other in dealing with the new format.

Ghei pointed out that Europe and USA had tried different formats over the years, but they were one-off events. "To have a Tour, followed by the league in a short, concise format is exciting. It will engage youngsters and bring new viewership to the game," said Ghei.

They were unanimous that young fans did not have the patience to watch golf for long hours, and the quick format would provide the "excitement for the fan."

The IGPL would also mean more opportunities for players to compete through the year. It would mean access to golf for more aspirants, giving the chance for players to represent teams and be seen on television.

Kapur said that he was keen to be fully involved as a mentor and leader in building a franchise, the team, and experience the joy of sharing.

"The pressure while playing for a team is a lot different. When Karthik Singh plays Gaganjeet Bhullar, it will be a learning experience for both players," said Ghei.

Jamshedpur beats Tribhuvan Army in a five-goal thriller

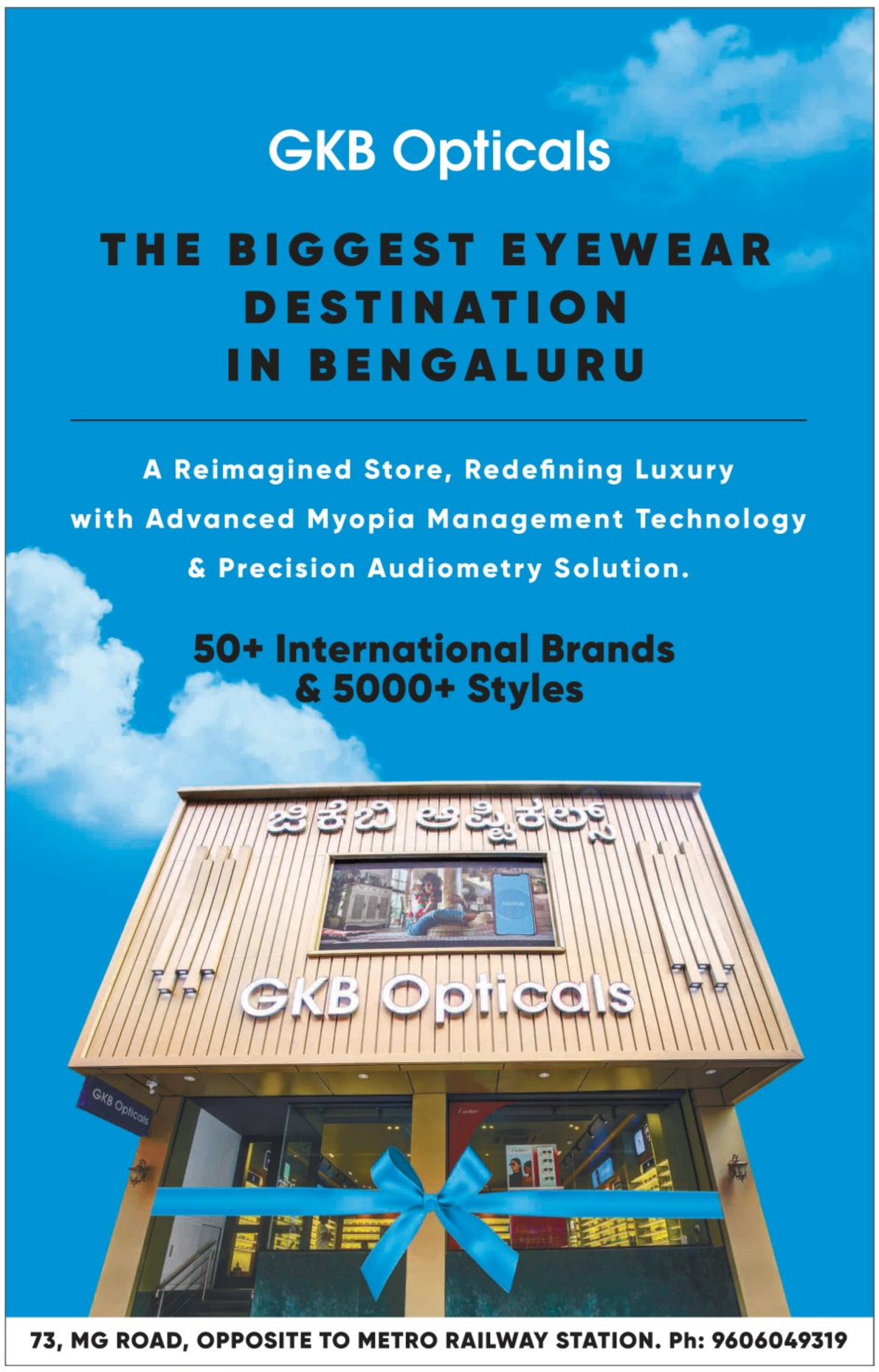
DURAND CUP

Sports Bureau

Jamshedpur FC beat Tribhuvan Army of Nepal FC 3-2 in the 134th Durand Cup in Jamshedpur on Thursday.

The Nepal Army outfit equalised twice before Nikhil Barla found the winning goal in the 71st minute.

The result: Jamshedpur FC 3 (Sarthak Golui 4, Manvir Singh 31, Nikhil Barla 71) bt Tribhuvan Army FC 2 (George Karki 26, Ananta Tamang 64).


GKB Opticals
THE BIGGEST EYEWEAR DESTINATION IN BENGALURU
A Reimagined Store, Redefining Luxury
with Advanced Myopia Management Technology
& Precision Audiometry Solution.
50+ International Brands
& 5000+ Styles
GKB Opticals
73, MG ROAD, OPPOSITE TO METRO RAILWAY STATION. Ph: 9606049319